Newsletter December 2014







Supporting families with premature and critically ill babies in New York-area NICUs and helping improve the quality of NICU care.

Magnificent Milestone: \$1 Million Raised To Help NICU Families

Thanks to our generous supporters, partners and volunteers, we are proud to announce that Hailey's Hope Foundation has raised more than \$1 million in just six years. This is a tremendous milestone for us and enables us to expand our programs to reach more hospitals and NICU families.

The funds raised have been used to provide financial support and care packages to over 3,500 NICU families in need, purchase state-of-the-art NICU equipment and supplies, and establish our first in-hospital NICU Family Resource Room. Currently our programs are implemented in four New York-area NICUs: Maria Fareri Children's Hospital at Westchester Medical Center (Valhalla), Orange Regional Medical Center (Middletown), Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital/NY Presbyterian at Columbia University Medical Center (Manhattan) and The Children's Hospital at Albany Medical Center (Albany).

"It's amazing what Hailey's Hope Foundation is doing for NICU families," says Theresa Conte, Nursing Service Administrator Women and Children at Orange Regional Medical Center. "They know what these families need and go to great lengths to help."



Inaugural Pub Trivia Night

Goshen, New York March 6

7th Annual Dinner Auction

Goshen, New York September 6

4th Annual Golf Outing

Purchase, New York October 3

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Check for details and updates on our website at www.haileyshopefoundation.org.

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WE'VE GROWN!

Over the past two years, HHF has expanded to include programs at the NICUs at Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital/NY Presbyterian at Columbia University Medical Center and The Children's Hospital at Albany Medical Center.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jeffrey Randazzo, President Donna Zion, Vice President Ann Siegel, Secretary Debra Randazzo, Treasurer Isaac Zion Marvin Siegel Suzanne Decina

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Hailey's Hope Foundation

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HHF's 1st NICU Family Resource Room

In honor of World Prematurity Awareness Month and World Prematurity Day, HHF celebrated in a special ribbon-cutting ceremony the opening of its first NICU Family Resource Room at the Rowley Family Birthing Center at Orange Regional Medical Center on November 18, 2014. HHF collaborated with hospital representatives to create a comfortable, peaceful and private area where families can relax, unwind, research, meet with doctors, connect with other NICU families, and more...just steps away from the NICU.



Plaque outside the NICU Family Resource Room at Orange Regional Medical Center



From L to R: Richard Rowley; Lauren Rowley; Neonatologist, Dr. Manuel DeCastro; Administrator for Women's and Children's Services, Theresa Fay Conte; Board of Directors Chairman, Rolland B. Peacock, HHF Board Members Marvin Siegel and Ann Siegel; President & CEO, Scott Batulis; HHF President and Founder Jeffrey Randazzo and HHF Board Member, Debra Randazzo. The room is equipped with comfortable furniture, a TV, a desk and computer with internet access, personal lockers, books and magazines for siblings, as well as educational resources for parents. "With this space now available, we hope that parents will visit their babies more frequently and for longer periods of time," says Donna Zion, Vice President of HHF. "At these early critical stages, babies can benefit significantly by having their parents involved in their NICU care."

Since the NICU's opening in 2012, HHF

has provided over \$40,000 in support for the NICU, its babies and their families.



ORMC Board Members and staff with HHF Board Members

DID YOU KNOW...

- Each year world-wide 15 million babies are born prematurely (i.e. less than 37 weeks). In the U.S., over 500,000 babies (about 1 out of 9) are born prematurely each year.
- Premature birth is the leading cause of newborn death in the U.S. Other complications from premature birth include increased risk for breathing problems, cerebral palsy, intellectual disabilities, learning issues, intense emotional stress, and costly care for families.

November 2014 was National Prematurity Awareness Month and November 17th was World Prematurity Day – a special time to raise awareness about the global problem of premature birth.

Meet the Drobenak Family Their NICU Story:



Our daughter, Olivia Drobenak, was born 11 weeks early, weighing only 2 pounds 10 ounces and measuring 15.25 inches long. Her arrival was the beginning of an unexpected journey.

On July 5, 2014, friends and family gathered to

throw my husband, Brandon, and I a small baby shower. Olivia is our second child so we didn't need much, but we wanted to celebrate her upcoming arrival.

After a joyful afternoon, we all parted ways and headed home to watch the World Cup. Throughout the day there was no indication that anything was wrong or about to go wrong. In fact, two days prior I was at the doctor's office for a monthly visit and everything was right on track and looked wonderful.

As I was sitting on the living room carpet with my 3 year old, Jake, I felt a pop. At first I thought it was a hard kick, Olivia was quite the soccer star since I began feeling her tiny flutters, but then I twisted around and felt a small leak. When I stood up to visit the bathroom a puddle landed at my feet. I was terrified. I yelled for Brandon and a girlfriend who was watching the game with us. I knew my water had broken but I desperately wanted another mom to tell me that it didn't look like much and it was no big deal, but that wasn't the case. Brandon quickly rushed toward me. He was pale and his eyes looked nervous, but he kept reassuring me that we'd be ok – Olivia would be ok.

Brandon is in the Army and we are stationed at West Point, so we immediately rushed to Keller Army Community Hospital where they swiftly transferred me to Westchester Medical Center. Since I wasn't contracting or dilated, the doctors decided to start me on





antibiotics to prevent infection and monitor Olivia and I closely, watching for any signs of distress. I was able to get one set of steroid shots and keep our precious girl safely inside for 6 more days until I started laboring naturally. On her Daddy's 33rd birthday, July 11, 2014, Olivia was born at 29 weeks and came out screaming.



They discharged me two days later and our daily commute to and from the Regional NICU at Maria Fareri Children's Hospital began. Living at West Point, our daily commute took about an hour each way. Grandparents cared for Jake during the day, while I sat with Olivia in the RNICU each day. Brandon was able to take 30 days of leave, but

returned to work in August and then visited after work and on the weekends. The days were long, exhausting and financially draining, but we were determined to be with Olivia as much as we could.

I am thankful every day for the fight our girl has in her. During her 75-day stay in the RNICU Olivia had interventions, but miraculously never required oxygen supplementation. There were bumps and bends in the road; Olivia got a urinary tract infection when she was 2 weeks old, had a small cyst on the frontal horn of her brain, 2 blood transfusions and Grade 2 Hydronephrosis (the swelling of a kidney).

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The Drobenak Family Story

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The day we met Debra Randazzo from Hailey's Hope Foundation brought so much encouragement and emotional support to us in a scary time. Not only are we grateful for the monetary support, but the emotional support as well. I remember crying and Debra just hugging me. She had been in our shoes and knew what this crazy new world was all about. What a comfort it was to have her there. She knew what fears we had and exactly how we felt through each moment – the highs and the lows. She didn't make naïve comments about Olivia "just needing to grow" and knew why we were terrified of her catching a cold. What a blessing Debra and Hailey's Hope Foundation have been throughout this experience.



Olivia is now home and brings us joy each day. While we know there are obstacles that may arise in the future, we are hopeful there will not be and enjoy watching Olivia grow bigger and continue to meet her adjusted age

milestones. She is a very happy baby, always smiling at her big brother, Jake, who loves doing tummy time with her. We think of our RNICU and Hailey's Hope Foundation family often. The work that they do to support these precious babies and their families is inspiring and makes a difference for so many families like us each and every day.

HOW CAN I HELP?

Volunteer your time and skills

Blog about NICU issues for HHF

Social media campaigns

Grant writing

Fundraising events

Event photography

Solicit care package supplies

Graphic design

Donate

We would love to have your help in our efforts to support NICU families. Please contact us at (914) 584-8833, send us an email at info@haileyshopefoundation.org, or visit www.haileyshopefoundation.org for more information.

A Big Thank You Girl Scout Troop #119

On March 28, 2014, local Girl Scout Troop # 119 packed a whopping 200 care packages and gift-wrapped 75 disposable cameras, which were delivered throughout the year to NICU families at The Rowley Family Birthing Center at Orange Regional Medical Center in Middletown.

"We are so thrilled to be able to help this wonderful charity," said Troop Leader, Marie Denardo. "HHF is making a tremendous difference in the lives of NICU families, and we are proud to be a part of that." Volunteering not only brings comfort to families in need, but will also help these hard-working Girl Scouts earn their gold badge.



"It is exciting to see young girls putting other peoples' needs first and working together to positively impact their community," said HHF Board Member, Debra Randazzo. "We greatly appreciate their support!"

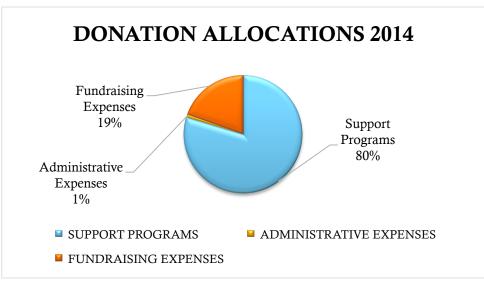
\$1 Million Milestone

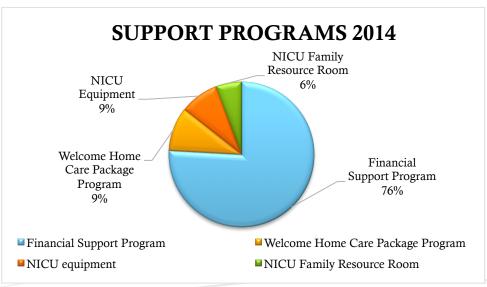
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"It's unfortunate that many families and babies have to experience the NICU," says Jeffrey Randazzo, President of Hailey's Hope Foundation. "It's not part of the family plan. But with the right support, we can help families get through their journey and help their babies get better faster. Thank you to all of our wonderful supporters who make that possible. We couldn't do it without you."

Hailey's Hope Foundation celebrated this special milestone with supporters at its 6th Annual BBQ Bash on September 6th at Palacio Catering in Goshen.

Where Your Donation Goes





WHAT YOUR **DONATION CAN PROVIDE** A meal for a NICU \$10 parent at Au Bon Pain A Welcome Home \$35 Care Package for a family at discharge \$50 Gas or metro cards for transportation to and from the hospital \$120 A one-week stay at the Ronald McDonald House or overnight stay at a local hotel Gift card for \$250 essential baby supplies \$500 A one-month financial support package for a NICU family

2014 FUNDRAISING HIGHLIGHTS

HHF had a remarkable year with fundraisers. It hosted three annual events, grossing over \$220,000. From BBQ Bashes at Manursing Island Club in Rye and Palacio Catering in Goshen to golfing at The Golf Club of Purchase, HHF indulged guests with great food, cocktails, music, and more. HHF is incredibly grateful to all of its sponsors, donors and volunteers who helped to make these events truly memorable.

BBQ Beach Bash, May 31st



HHF's Debra and Jeffrey Randazzo, Ann and Marvin Siegel, Sue and David Decina, and Donna and Isaac Zion



Guest speakers and NICU



parents James and Julie Burton



HHF Board Members with Guest Speaker, Sue Malfa, RNICU Nurses (Elizabeth O'Neill, Marichu Smith,

Lydia Delau and DeBorah

Julia Larkin

Briston), Eleana Briston and

Guests Alicia and Matt





Guests Susan Wattenberg, Olivia Blau and Shain Fishman



Co-Chairs, Doreen Zion and Staci Ramachandran

BBQ Bash, September 6th

Guests Therese Karl, Amy

Lejuez

Katie Paul

and



HHF Members, Keith and Dawn Singer; Vice President Donna Zion: Board Members Ann and Marvin Siegel; Village of Goshen Mayor Kyle Roddey; Village Trustees Edward Char and Chris Gurda: Board Member Debra Randazzo and President and Founder Jeffrey Randazzo



Guests, Angela Toscano, Tim and Patti Stickley, and Mike Toscano



ABOVE: Orange Regional Medical Center Staff; BELOW: Bill and Margo Youngman, Patricia Hess, Jeffrey Randazzo and Bobby Hess



Volunteers Debbie and Kathleen MacGowan and Camille Ferrara;



Jeffrey Randazzo with sons, Matthew and Jeffrey



Guests Heather Larsen, Kristin Klugman, Susan Johnson, and Jackie LaCosta



HHF Board Member Isaac Zion, Brett Herschenfeld, David Schonbraun and Andrew Mathias



HHF Vice President, Donna Zion, Board Member Debra Randazzo and Volunteer Patricia Hess

3rd Annual Golf Outing, October 6th



Sponsor Alliance Building Services' Michael Rodriguez, Jason Pizer, Doug Jablonsky and Jeff Duarte



Matt Downs, Drew Melchionni, Matt Borstein and Jonathan Pollack



David Taylor, Ryan Taylor, Matt Cassin and David Germond



HHF Board Members Ann and Marvin Siegel



Jim Regan, Bob Hunter, Nick Santoro and John Regan



Kevin Ryan, Joe Taylor, David Slaven and Joe Willen

NYS Troopers PBA Supports HHF



HHF was honored to receive a special donation this year from the NYS Troopers PBA Signal 30 Benefit Fund and the Estes family. This generous gift was made in memory of Anna Beth Estes, the late daughter of Trooper Matthew Estes, and his wife, Beth. Anna was born on September 4, 2013 with a rare congenital heart defect—Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome (HLHS). She was hospitalized at Maria Fareri Children's Hospital and underwent multiple surgeries. On December 19, 2013, Anna passed away.

The PBA Signal 30 Benefit Fund hosted its 5th Annual Casino Night Benefit on March 7th to raise money for New York State Troopers and their families in extraordinary circumstances. The Estes family requested that a portion of the proceeds be donated to Hailey's Hope Foundation for supporting them during Anna's long hospitalization.

(Pictured above from L to R: Beth and NYS Trooper Mathew Estes with daughter, Amelia; HHF Board Members Debra Randazzo and Ann Siegel; and First Vice President Mark Robillard)

HHF Donates Lifesaving Infant CPR Anytime Kits

This summer, Hailey's Hope Foundation proudly donated over 200 American Heart Association Infant CPR Anytime Kits to The Rowley Family Birthing Center NICU at Orange Regional Medical Center. These "all-in-one" training kits are designed



to teach parents, family members, friends and caregivers core lifesaving skills to handle CPR and choking emergencies (choking is the #1 cause of unintentional death in infants) at home. This is one of many initiatives in which Hailey's Hope Foundation strives to equip parents with the tools necessary to be their baby's best advocate in the NICU and as they transition home.

Shopping is now more rewarding...all year long!

You shop at Amazon. Amazon gives to HHF. It's that simple!

AmazonSmile is an easy way to support HHF and help NICU families – at no cost to you. Amazon will donate .05% of every dollar spent on eligible purchases to HHF. You can use your existing Amazon account and you'll enjoy the same great products, prices and service you always do.

How to sign up:

Go to "http://smile.amazon.com/ch/26-1387176".

Look for the "Eligible for AmazonSmile donation".

Shop to your heart's content!



AmazonSmile is a 501(c)(3) private foundation created by Amazon to help charities raise funds more easily.