

Highlights Happenings

Summer 2009 Vol. 11

The Tomorrow Fund, Rhode Island Hospital Campus, 593 Eddy Street, Providence, RI 02903-4947 (401) 444-8811

OUR MISSION The Tomorrow Fund is the **only** local nonprofit organization that provides daily financial and emotional support to children with cancer and their families. We work to increase public awareness of childhood cancer and we promote research to improve the care and wellbeing of children with cancer.

- The Tomorrow Fund is an independent and local nonprofit organization.
- We provide direct financial assistance to children with cancer and their families.
- We provide support to The Tomorrow Fund Clinic at Hasbro Children's Hospital.
- The Tomorrow Fund programs provide support groups, parent consultants, community education, and psycho-social research.

You can make a difference in the life of children with cancer. Your donations are tax deductible.

"The Tomorrow Fund was always there for us to provide the art facilities and emotional support." ~Robert Markarian **Tomorrow Fund Parent**

Open for Business The "new" Tomorrow Fund Clinic

The new Tomorrow Fund Clinic, located in the upper lobby of Hasbro Children's Hospital, opened for business on May 1, 2009.

The Edwin N. Forman Pediatric Hematology/ Oncology Center, named after our fearless leader Dr. Edwin N. Forman, will serve the patients of oncology/hematology.

By relocating the Clinic, The Tomorrow Fund was able to expand the Clinic providing seven private exam rooms, four infusion rooms, and a centralized nurse's station. Art projects and play are much more accessible in the new, larger playroom.

Today, more than 90% of children in Rhode Island and Southeastern Massachusetts diagnosed with cancer are treated in The Tomorrow Fund Hematology/ Oncology Clinic. Relying solely on contributions, The Tomorrow Fund has been able to increase support for Social Workers, a full-time Child Life Specialist, a Spanish Interpreter, a Clinic Dietician and a Data Management Coordinator.

We are very excited about the opportunities and services our new Tomorrow Fund Clinic will provide to the patients and families who are treated at Hasbro





WE CAN'T SAY HOW KIDS WITH CANCER WILL GROW UP...WE JUST WANT TO MAKE SURE THEY DO!!



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"You will never know what The Tomorrow Fund means to our family."

~Laura Hartley Tomorrow Fund Parent

ABOUT THE TOMORROW FUND

The Tomorrow Fund was founded in 1985 by a group of local physicians and parents of children with cancer to ease the traumatic financial and emotional burdens that accompany this dreaded disease. Each year, more than 90% of the children in RI and southeastern Massachusetts who are diagnosed with cancer are treated in the Tomorrow Fund Clinic at Hasbro Children's Hospital, a clinic we support. From hospital parking passes to bone marrow transplant expenses, our programs form a "safety net" for these courageous kids and their families as they face the daily challenges and harsh realities of childhood cancer.

FROM CANCER TO COLLEGE

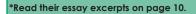
"DINO GERMANI SCHOLARSHIPS"

Each year Tomorrow Fund cancer survivors have the opportunity to pursue their dreams thanks to the generosity of Dino Germani, a dedicated Tomorrow Fund friend and donor.

Dino created the scholarship program in 2003, to help defray the cost of attending college. Though Dino lost his battle with cancer in 2006, his generous bequest provided an endowment guaranteeing funding each year for the "Dino Germani College Scholarship" program. We celebrate the promising futures of our Tomorrow Fund Kids and Dino's everlasting generosity through the announcement of the 2009 scholarship recipients.

2009 "Dino Germani Scholarship" recipients:

Stephanie Alaer Fred Ancona Sean Boyle Haley Call Patrick Cooney Xenia Fernandez* Katie Hammond Michael Hartley* Kathleen Morin* Andrew Ricci





RHODY 5K RAISES \$48,000 FOR THE TOMORROW FUND

On Sunday, June 7th, Twin River hosted the 10th Annual Rhody 5K Road Race. The Tomorrow Fund received over \$48,000 to support our programs. Our sincere thanks to the employees at Twin River whose hard work and dedication make this event such a success each year.





In Memoriam

We gratefully acknowledge the many friends of The Tomorrow Fund who have made generous gifts in memory of loved ones. These thoughtful tributes will have a lasting effect on the lives of children with cancer. This list reflects gifts made from September 5, 2008 -May 31, 2009. We apologize in advance for any errors or omissions.

In Memory of.... September 5, 2008 - May 31, 2009

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In Memory of continued... September 5, 2008 - May 31, 2009

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Carmella DiBattista

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Wickford Middle School

THE 7th ANNUAL TOMORROW FUND STROLL

This year's stroll, held on April 26th, was filled with music, entertainment, and activities. More than 2,000 strollers and

volunteers enjoyed a rare sun-filled day.

The 7th Annual Tomorrow Fund Stroll raised \$85,000 to support our programs with fundraising Top Team leaders-Team Angel Megan with \$6,175 and Team Autumn Angel with \$5,204. Terri Bentley led the individual fundraising with \$2,000, while Paul Lefebvre raised \$1,250.

Thank you to all the participants for your time and generous fundraising efforts!





In Memory of continued... September 5, 2008 - May 31, 2009

Payton Watson continued...

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Your Precious Poppy

Mr. & Mrs. Eddie Shorr

"Thank you Tomorrow
Fund for all that you do
to help the children of
RI fight cancer and for
also allowing them to
be kids by the activities
you plan."

~Lisa and Savannah Mirabella Tomorrow Fund Supporters

Kids for Kids

Each year, schools and youth groups throughout the community make a difference in the lives of children with cancer by coordinating fundraising projects like bake sales, car washes, selling Tomorrow Fund Awareness cards and green bracelets. Younger kids help too by collecting pennies or donating band-aids and stickers. We salute all their efforts and praise them for having such big hearts!



On March 1, 2009, **Franklin High School** in Franklin, MA gathered for a Winter Carnival to get the community involved and raise awareness about The Tomorrow Fund.

Both clubs, from within the school, and outside groups, including theater, soccer, and the national honor society, manned booths and games. A silent auction was also held by the Franklin High School Student Government.

"In the end, we brought everyone together, had a great time, and raised money for such a compassionate organization," stated a representative of Franklin High School.



In all, the school raised \$4,700 for programs to assist children with cancer and their families.



Forest Park Elementary-Back row: Stephanie Mulcahey, Mason Preble, Jordyn Betsh, and Edward Cardarelli Front row: David Patrie, Georgia Wettergren, Tristan Owens, and Brianna De Rosa

Second grade students and teachers at the **Myron J. Francis Schoo**l in Rumford, RI raised money for The Tomorrow Fund by crafting and selling ornaments at a school wide sale. Ornaments were sold out in two hours and raised \$276.00.

Forest Park Elementary ran their first Kids for Kids campaign this year from March 3rd - March 22nd, with a kick off during their "Model Citizens Assembly."

"I accompanied, Georgia, a Tomorrow Fund Child, to the clinic where we dropped off 107 boxes of crayons, 106 boxes of band-aids, 146 coloring books and 119 sheets of stickers. Georgia gave me a tour and even showed me the band aid drawer!"

"The students were very excited to be doing something to help children with cancer. One second grade child even wrote Ocean State Job Lot and asked for 40 coloring books," explained Jill Vitko, Project Coordinator.

Having exceeded their Kids for Kids goal, the students earned an extra recess for their accomplishments.



Anna McCabe Elementary School in Smithfield, RI, joined the Kids for Kids program on April 29th, 2009 by collecting items during National Walk at Lunch Day.



The faculty, staff and students collected band-aids, stickers, crayons, combining fundraising and physical activity into their day!

To find out more about the Kids for Kids program, call us at 401-444-8811.

Narragansett Elementary School combined family recipes and children's art creating a one of a kind cookbook.

The school printed 500 cookbooks netting \$1500.00 in proceeds for The Tomorrow Fund.

Happenings... Annual Meeting, January 8th

Melissa Melo, outgoing treasurer excepts a small token of our appreciation for her many years of service.



David Belhumeur honoring Dr. Forman as our "Friend"



The Tomorrow Fund's 2009-2010 Board of Directors.





Flanked by Dr. Forman and Bob Caron, Shirley Sherman accepts the "Service to Children 2008" award.

Sunday in the Park with Dr. Edwin Forman

On Sunday, March 1, Tomorrow Fund families, friends, kids and supporters gathered together to honor Dr. Edwin N. Forman at the Botanical Gardens in Roger Williams Park.

Together we shared memories and refreshments as we said farewell to Dr. Forman, former Chief of Pediatrics Hematology/Oncology in The Tomorrow Fund Clinic. Ed and his wife Sylvia relocated to New York City and Ed is now practicing at Mount Sinai Hospital.

As a special tribute to our fearless leader, the newly renovated Tomorrow Fund Clinic is designated the "Edwin N. Forman Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Center."



Ed with his many admirers at the reception in his honor.

Tomorrow's Future

Essay Excerpts from the 2009 Dino Germani Scholarship Recipients

"Five years ago, I did not know what to expect. My diagnosis was leukemia and my treatment was more than two years long. I was just 14 years old and I didn't know what I wanted to do with my life. All I wanted was to survive. Little did I know that within those five years, I would not only choose my future career, I would be educated in the process.

Although I thought about becoming a doctor, I was not really motivated until my closest clinic friend died in 2006.

Since then, I have been on a path to become a doctor. I attend college as a biology major, which will lead to medical school.

...I want to help people. I want to impact my community by helping children and providing knowledge and inspiration, just as my doctors did for me."

~Xenia Fernandez Tomorrow Fund Kid Future Doctor



"On the night of June 12, 2004, a brain tumor hemorrhaged in my head. I was rushed to the hospital and had immediate brain surgery. I was unaware that I had a brain tumor and had no symptoms prior to the night it hemorrhaged.

Before this incident I was unsure of the career path I would follow. When this happened, I promised myself if I got back on track and was able to go to school, I would go to law school.

People always look at me as if I am not intelligent because I use a walker. My education will not only allow me to achieve my goals, but will help enlighten others that handicapped people are just as intelligent as they are."

~Michael J. Hartley Tomorrow Fund Kid Future Lawyer

"Success is not final, failure is not fatal; it is the courage to continue that counts." This quoted by Winston Churchill best describes my life and attitude. "The fact that I am somewhat dyslexic and have had cancer does not stop me from trying my very best.

My goal is to become a good teacher, maybe even a great teacher. Life's lessons made me a good student and now I want to become a good teacher. To become a good teacher you must first overcome life's challenges with a positive attitude.

Cancer gave me an opportunity to show my courage and determination."

~Kathleen Morin Tomorrow Fund Kid Future Teacher

Family Matters

"They say grief affects everyone differently. I've come to realize by going to groups with other bereaved parents, that there is no loss that comes close to losing your child."

My daughter Lauren was diagnosed with brain cancer in her junior year of highschool. Lauren had surgery immediately and began a regimen of chemotherapy and radiation, but it wasn't enough, the tumor grew again. Lauren endured another surgery later that year, but parts of the cancer were unreachable.

Lauren realized after being diagnosed with brain cancer that she did not just want to "float" through life but make an impact on it, especially after her first visit to The Tomorrow Fund Clinic. "The Clinic was so full of life and wonderful people, that I often forgot why I was there", stated Lauren in a 2006 interview for The Tomorrow Fund's newsletter.

A Fathers's Reflections

Though Lauren did not have time to realize all her goals and dreams, "I know she lives on in many of us," remarks her father Bruce.

"There are so many things that I don't remember from Lauren's last year with us. I've been told that it's part of the process where the brain tries to protect you. At the same time there are things so vivid in my mind. I know that when she opened her eyes, and touched my hand at 8:15 am in the morning, that she had moved on at that point. I can see it so vividly, yet I can't remember the name of Lauren's fish that I feed and take care of everyday."

"I know I need to be strong, we all do. We need to keep Lauren's memory alive and do anything we can to help others. I know that is what Lauren would have wanted of me, what she would have wanted from all of us."

> ~Bruce Zerembka Tomorrow Fund Parent

The 5th Annual Allyson Gibree Basketball Tournament was held on March at the LaSalle Academy Gym. Thirty teams joined together to compete

(Right): Phillip, Sr., Dianne and Phillip, Jr. Gibree pose with a photo



The 6th Eric Carl Sjoblom Golf Tournament, held on June 26th, raised \$12,800 in memory of Eric Sjoblom who was diagnosed with Stage IV Neuroblastoma in January 2004.

"We will be forever grateful to The Tomorrow Fund who helped us during Eric's sickness, and continue to support us today."

~The Sjoblom and DiGiacomo Families

Annual Justin Laverdiere Memorial Golf Tournament

From left to right: Matt Ballentine, Sales Rep from major sponsor, Ossur, Matt Albuquerque, VP Next Step O & P, Dave Beauchemin, Next Step Employee



family friend & neighbor, (end) Blake & Marilyn Layerdiere (Justin's parents).



SALUTE TO OUR DONORS





London/Riley Memorial Scholarship Winners for 2009

On August 3rd the London/Riley Scholarships were award to the following Tomorrow Fund Kids; Seth Perry, Katie Hammond, Matthew A. Baglini, John Montanaro, Michael J. Hartley, Xenia Fernandez and Andrew A Ricci. Congratulations to all!

Easton Corporation Employees; John Nobrega, Howard King, Kimberly Easton, Stacy Parent, Terrence Gasbarro, Paul Randall with Raphara Discharge Topponius and Eugenius Discharge Control Control

Team Megan Angel at the 7th Annual Tomorrow Fund Stroll



imbeny Easton, Stacy Parent, Terrence Gasbarro, Paul Kanda with Barbara Ducharme, Tomorrow Fund Executive Director.



Master Park's Taekwondo Center and Brown University Taekwondo Club Kick-A-Thon was held on January 31st donating over \$7,040 to The Tomorrow Fund.



3rd Row: Eric Shu, Angela Yang, David Atkinson, Ryan Belisle, Christopher Hartman, Paul Jeng, Eun-Young Jeong, Stephanie Lee, Kim Nguyen, Jennifer Tan, Sara Slama, RI TKD member

2nd Row: Stephen Sirocco, Mark Sirocco, Michelle Ramadan, Caitlin Feehery, Yun Cheng, Karine Ip Chong, Jonathon Tan, Thao Vu, RI TKD member

1st Row: Juan Sanchez-Esteban, Dave Menino, Shenghua Jin, Cindy Lung, Julia Chua, Shawn Medford, Amed Logrono



"Thank you for all the wonderful work your organization does for the children of our state."

> ~Diana Grimes Tomorrow Fund Supporter



Dean T. Holt. President and CFO. Barbara Ducharme. Tomorrow Fund. Jaime C Lind, Marketing Director, Kathy Connolly, Tomorrow Fund and Craig A Baker, Executive Vice President pose for a special check presentation from the Domestic Bank golf tournament.



Iron Man Jon Tarbox with friends at Camp Dotty. Jon swam, biked, and ran in honor of The omorrow Fund at the Amica IRONMAN competition on July



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Mark Your Calendar!

August 24

The Tomorrow Fund Golf Tournament, Warwick Country Club **September 1-30**

Childhood Cancer Awareness Month

September 20

Joseph Sindoni Memorial Fundraiser, Eleven Forty-Nine Restaurant September 22

Governor's Press Conference to salute Tomorrow Fund Ambassadors **November 14**

The Tomorrow Fund's 22nd Annual Fantasy Ball, Rhodes on the Pawtuxet

November 27-29

Christmas in the Barn, 30 Middle Road, East Greenwich

December 3

The Tomorrow Fund Remembrance Service

December 4-6

Christmas in the Barn, 30 Middle Road, East Greenwich

TBD

Documentary Premiere "A Break in the Clouds" the Camp Dotty Story

We welcome Kathy Connolly, the new Development Director of The Tomorrow Fund.

A Familiar Face in a New Place!

Kathy is well known throughout the community for her tireless efforts and many friendships formed through her years of experience in the non-profit world.



DONATE TODAY!

EVERY gift to The Tomorrow Fund makes a difference to a child with cancer. There are so many ways to help!

- •Annual Appeal make a tax-deductible donation to our Annual Appeal.
- Monthly or Quarterly Giving donate automatically with your credit card.
- Kids for Kids Campaign a special fundraising program for schools and youth groups.
- Employee Giving invite a Tomorrow Fund speaker to your workplace; donate through your workplace; designate a gift through the United Way#3790.
- Planned Giving leave a legacy in your will or estate plan.
- Honorary Gifts celebrate a wedding, birthday, or other special occasion with a gift to The Tomorrow Fund.
- •Memorial Gifts pay tribute to a loved one with your donation. A special acknowledgement will be sent to the family.
- Special Events attend a Tomorrow Fund event, such as our annual Stroll or Fantasy Ball, or create an event of your own!
- **VOLUNTEER** volunteers are the heart and soul of The Tomorrow Fund. Help out in our office, at our events, or join a committee.

THANK YOU!

Rhode Island Hospital Campus 593 Eddy Street Providence, RI 02903



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