



Stephen's Mission

The Toledo Kids Who Care

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September 2005

Hello!!

I could hardly believe that it's September already. Where has the year gone? My sisters and I are back to school and working really hard. Although we have less time now, we still try to make time to do what we like most and our Mission is growing everyday. Wait until you see what we have accomplished this month. But first there are so many people that I have to thank.....

I would like to start off with my dear friends Victor, Silvia, Amanda and Victor Stephen Velazquez. I know I have mentioned them in many newsletters before, but I would just like to stress just how special this family is. They have donated so much to my mission that a simple *thank you* does not seem enough. It seems like very month they out do the one before. Once again they have donated generously to my mission. This month they donated beautiful goodie bags for the kids in Clara Maass Medical Center. They have also helped spread the word and because of their hard efforts we have been able to gather many used car seats and clothes for the thrift shop of University Hospital. Not only are they supportive in our mission but they are wonderful friends and great role models. We are very lucky to have them in our life.



Goodie Bags donated by The Velazquez Family



Gabriela with bag of socks donated by The Rosabal Family

To Ernesto & Olinda Rosabal who donated over 100 pairs of socks for the kids in Clara Maass Medical Center.

To Robin Hannah for the generous donation of used baby clothes and shoes.

To our much loved pediatrician Dr. Miguela Paragas, for generously donating baby formula for the Raphael's Life House in Elizabeth, New Jersey.

To Idelmi Esteves for the donation of used car seat, used clothes, diapers, formula, playpen, and walker.

To our friend Terri Marone from Valley National Bank who donated beautiful over sized stuffed animals for the Pediatric Emergency Unit of Clara Maass Medical Center.

To [Dr. Robert A. Ruffalo](#) for his very generous donation and for taking such great care of our Dad.

To Migdalia Llerena, Adela Bell, Esteves Family, Angela & Carlos Torres, to Nina, Nino and Torres Boys, to my Grandparents Abu & Aba, to my Godmother Randy and Terry, Mr. & Mrs. Ketay, Mr. & Mrs. Milanes, The Dopez Family, Alex Dopez, and Mr. & Mrs. Martin, **THANK YOU ALL** for always supporting us and making it possible to do all that we do. None of this would be possible if it was not for all of you.

Last but certainly not least, to the "*Directors and CEO*" of our Mission.....to our Mimi and Pipo. They keep us going and fill us with inspiration. Not only do they support our mission and help with all our fundraising lemonade stands, they are now venturing their own sale of homemade Flan to help raise money for our Mission. We are truly blessed to have such wonderfully motivating grandparents.



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Clara Maass Medical Center

On September 12, 2005 we had the pleasure of meeting Linda Dietterich, the new director of the Emergency Department at Clara Maass Medical Center. We presented her with beautiful over-grown stuffed animals generously donated by Terri Marone of Valley National Bank. We are sure this gift will help ease the kid's anxiety and fear of the emergency room and help them get better faster. We want to thank Terri Marone once again for such a great donation.



Stephen, Stephanie, Gabriela & Linda Dietterich, Director of Emergency Department with the stuffed animals donated by Terri Marone of Valley National Bank.

After visiting with Linda Dietterich we went to Pediatrics to deliver the beautiful goodie bags donated by the Velazquez Family. As you can see from the pictures below the colorful goodie bags were filled with fun stationary that could be used both during their hospital stay as well as at home. I am sure all the kids will enjoy them.

We were also very fortunate to be able to present the Pediatric floor with over 100 pairs of children socks very generously donated by The Rosabal Family. This is an

item that is always on their wish list and the staff was more than happy to accept. We want to thank the Rosabal Family for always thinking of our Mission and for their continued support.

During our visit we were honored to meet Dr. Nancy Cozzini who we talked to for a while explaining our Mission and upcoming fundraising events. She was very nice and seemed very interested. She even took the time to pose with us for a picture as seen below.



Gabriela, Stephanie, Stephen & Dr. Nancy Cozzini with the goodie bags donated by the Velazquez Family.

Raphael's Life House



On Friday, September 30th we were thrilled to once again expand our Mission by visiting The Raphael's Life House in Elizabeth, N.J. This is a house for homeless, pregnant women and their babies. www.Raphaelslifehouse.org We were very lucky to be able to donate many useful items, which included two used infant car seats, changing pad, used walkers, two used baby bath tubs, two bottle warmers, used



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blankets, used socks, used baby clothes, several bags of diapers, and several cans of baby formula. All thanks to the generosity of Dr. Miguela Paragas, Robin Hannah, and

Idelmi Esteves.

Our visit was very fulfilling. Both the staff as well as the residents of the home seemed excited to accept our donations. We would especially like to thank Ms. Ruthie White-Ward, house manager, for making us feel so welcomed. We hope to continue collecting items for them in the near future.



we mentioned during our last newsletter, this race will benefit the *Stephen Toledo Pediatric Fund*. Anyone who is interested in participating can checkout my website for the registration form, or call or email my Mom for more details. I hope to see you there.

We are very happy to announce that we have joined forces with the city of Perth Amboy to offer some help to victims of Katrina. It was brought to our attention that through the "Perth Amboy Gulf Coast Families Relief Fund Project" the city of Perth Amboy would be taking up to 100 families affected by Hurricane Katrina and providing them with temporary homes. After making several phone calls and learning of the items still needed, we have started to gathering many used house items and expect to make a delivery in the next few weeks. Please feel free to check out the web site below for more information on how you may help. <http://www.perthamboyrelieffund.org/>

On Friday, October 21st, we plan to visit University Hospital to deliver many used items for the thrift shop as well as some goodie bags donated by the Velazquez Family for the sick children in the Pediatrics unit.

We are also starting to work on some special Halloween bags for the children of Clara Maass Medical Center.

Many thanks to Raymond Ortiz from Kid City in Clifton, N.J. for nominating us for the WDHA 105.5 Kids Who Rock radio contest. As winners we have been invited to the Kids Who Rock Awards Banquet in January. Check out this website to read about other winners and their stories. www.starlighttattoo.com/eventsponsors/kidsrock/winners.php .

Upcoming Events And News

The Belleville Block Party was rescheduled due to rain for Monday, October 3rd. There will be entertainment, food, and lots of fun. We hope to see you there.

We are also looking forward to seeing all of you on Sunday, October 2nd at the *Essex County Bar Association Annual Race 5K Fun Run/Walk* in South Mountain Reservation, South Orange, New Jersey. As