

Friday, February 24, 2017

## Mel Trotter Ministries

[www.meltrotter.org](http://www.meltrotter.org)



Joshua Jeffries (left) and Sara Jeffries (right) at Mel Trotter Ministries.

mentoring & counseling, dental assistance, chiropractic care, and other services until they find jobs and housing. My wife, Sara Jeffries, has been able to work with the Mel Trotter mission and has seen the impact it has on the homeless community and the way that the mission has touched the guests."



**Joshua Jeffries, Warehouse Manager - Michigan:** "Mel Trotter Ministries gives the Grand Rapids area homeless a second chance. They provide a safe and livable community where guests are fed and given spiritual, emotional, and physical help. They attend chapel services, as well as receive

## Angela's House

[www.angelashouse.org](http://www.angelashouse.org)



Pictured L to R: Johanna Rotta, Liz Kump, and Robert Policastro, founder of Angela's House.

by coordinating the extensive array of services needed to support medically frail children at home. In September, we walked in the 'Applebee's 2nd Annual 3K Walk for Angela's House' to show support. The participants included many of the children benefited by Angela's House who walked or rolled along with their parents, siblings, family, friends, nurses and other supporters. A local DJ and a live acoustic performance kept the crowd dancing, even after the mile-long walk. Balloon animals were made by 'Ellis the Funny Man' and face painters kept the children entertained. A delicious lunch was provided by Applebee's that satiated everyone's appetites. It was a memorable event!"



**Elizabeth Kump, Distributor Business Manager & K-12 Education Specialist - Metro New York:** "Our dear friend's daughter, Daniella Martin, was born with a disability. Like many families with disabled children they have had to rely on help and services outside the home. Angela's House has helped to simplify home care options for these types of families



A group shot from the "Applebee's 2nd Annual 3K Walk for Angela's House" event.

## The David Heller Foundation

[www.davidhellerfoundation.org](http://www.davidhellerfoundation.org)



**Jeff Dunn, Distributor Business Manager - Oregon:**

"Our son was a teammate of David Heller, a 17-year-old high school basketball player, who died in 2005 from an undiagnosed heart condition called Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy (sometimes referred to as an enlarged heart). After his death, the Heller family established The David Heller Foundation with the hope that no other family would have to experience the tragic loss of a loved one from this disease. My wife and I, and several of the parents of David's teammates, have been volunteers with this wonderful organization since its inception.

The David Heller Foundation's primary functions include the following.

- The support of cardiac screenings for teenage athletes, including educating the public on the importance of cardiac screenings for possible detection of Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy.
- To provide scholarships for secondary and higher education to deserving students who meet the criteria established by the foundation's Board.
- Raise funds to purchase Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) which are donated to local high school athletic programs.

In the past two years, we have donated over 60 portable AEDs, at the cost of \$1,250 each, to local high schools throughout the state of Oregon. Many schools have AEDs in the gymnasium, but the portable AEDs can be used when teams travel off site for games. Given Oregon's vast geography, many smaller schools are located in areas where access to emergency services can be limited. Our goal is to raise enough funds to provide a portable AED to every high school in the state."



Pictured L to R: Jeff Dunn (left) with Bev and Jeff Heller.

## Canine Companions for Independence

[www.cci.org](http://www.cci.org)



**Marcia Tucker, Distributor Business Manager & Operator Specialist - Ohio:** "My family and I are puppy raisers for Canine Companions for Independence (CCI) and have now raised three dogs for CCI. Our latest puppy, Kaden, was returned in November for advanced training. Puppy raisers take puppies everywhere to socialize them and train the puppies 30 basic commands. All of the puppy training we provide is a personal donation. After completing training with a puppy raiser, the dogs are given more advanced in-depth training to be able to assist a person with disabilities. CCI dogs are placed with candidates all over the US." All CCI dogs and services are provided free of charge. CCI is funded by private contributions.



Pictured L to R: Morgan Veach with Pence, Marcia Tucker, Megan Tucker with Gambit.



Kaden (as a puppy), Marcia's most recent CCI dog.

## Camp Kesem

[campkesem.org](http://campkesem.org)



camp kesem

### Jessica Cogley, Corporate Client Coordinator - Virginia:

"My eldest daughter, Jacquelyn, attends Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) she is a proud supporter of Camp Kesem, a non-profit organization that serves and supports children whose parent(s) have been affected by cancer. Every \$500 raised provides a child the chance to attend a weeklong camp in the summer, free of charge! It allows the children to get away for a week and just be a kid again without the constant worry of their parent's cancer. They also have reunions and various other activities throughout the year to let the kids know that they are thinking of them and supporting them. My daughters lost their father to a rare form of skin cancer about 13-years ago. When Jacquelyn found out about this organization last year, she immediately felt drawn to these kids and wanted to get involved. I think it's a great way for them to know that others have gone through the same situation and that they are not alone and that it will be ok."



Morgan Jacobs (left) and Jacquelyn Cogley (right), VCU students and members of Camp Kesem at VCU.

## Public Safety Insurance Fund

[www.sullivanwills.com/html](http://www.sullivanwills.com/html)



### Ted Norton, Market Director - Alabama:

"KeyImpact and I are charter members of the Public Safety Insurance Fund (PSIF) since its inception in 2002. It is a one of a kind organization that provides a very unique benefit and is adding county and municipality Public Safety departments annually." PSIF is a group of Montgomery businesses that joined together to tangibly show their appreciation to our public safety officers. Numerous businesses contribute to the purchase of Life Insurance Policies and Accidental Death Policies for every firefighter, police officer and sheriff's deputy on active duty in Montgomery, as well as Alabama's highway patrol officers. Since the Public Safety Insurance Fund began in 2002, 22 officers have died and over \$500,000 has been paid out to the families of those officers. The Fund covers over 2,500 public safety officers in the River Region and Alabama.



Pictured L to R: Alan Norton, Grant Sullivan - Founder PSIF, and Ted Norton.

## Big Table

[www.big-table.com](http://www.big-table.com)

**Ryan Stoy, Distributor Business Manager - Washington:** “Big Table cares for those facing crisis or falling through the cracks in the restaurant and hospitality industry. The goal of Big Table is to provide a place for community and awareness of the challenges that face workers in the industry. They offer ongoing support to all restaurant and hotel workers without any strings attached. The primary ways they impact lives are by assisting with housing stability, single-parent family support, addiction recovery, dental & medical care, job readiness and mental health.

Prior to my job with KeyImpact, I was a restaurant operator and Chef. I have watched countless employees and friends, suffer and struggle through life. It tears you up watching these people deteriorate under the insurmountable pressure of their lives. Big Table provided me a way to help them. I could tell Big Table about these amazing people and their struggles, and Big Table would step in to help. Throughout my relationship with Big Table, I have been able to refer nearly 20 individuals in crisis. Big Table has provided unique and personal care to each individual. I am grateful to Big Table for this, and I know everyone they have ever cared for is also grateful.”



*Pictured from L to R: Kurt Freudenburg, Walt Maxwell, Kevin Finch, Chris Deitz, Ryan Stoy and Mandy Swanson.*

## Ice Cold Brew Fest

**Suzanne Cyrus, Distributor Business Manager - Wisconsin:** “Corky Sheppard, a sales associate with RFS Shawano, and his wife, Kathy, have been friends and business associates of mine for eight years. A year ago, Kathy was diagnosed with breast cancer. I had the honor of working the “Ice Cold Brew Fest” fundraiser in support of Corky and Kathy. The “Ice Cold Brew Fest” raises money for two local organizations: a hospice house and a breast cancer support center. The breast cancer support center is run entirely on donations and being a part of raising money for that organization felt fabulous!”



*Pictured L to R: Suzanne Cyrus, Rikki Starich, Kathy Sheppard, Corky Sheppard, and Shellie Donovan.*

## Syracuse Meals on Wheels

<http://meals.org>



*Craig Mueller (right) presenting the holiday donation to Mason Kauffman (left).*

**Craig Mueller, Vice President Northeast Zone:** “I have been volunteering in the Syracuse Meals on Wheels kitchen and delivering occasionally for the past seven years. My great aunt was homebound by illness eight years ago, and Meals on Wheels helped her to be able to stay in her apartment for the last few years before she had to be put into a nursing home. They provided her both a hot meal and a cold sandwich so she could get

the nourishment she needed to live on her own. My father was so impressed with the service that he started volunteering, and is now on the board of directors. He got me into volunteering as well when my Grandmother started receiving their service. It is a great organization that helps so many people in Syracuse.”

## Lee Sharples Memorial Scholarship



*Diane Jamerson (left) and the Sharples Family.*

**Diane Jamerson, Director of Strategy - Burlington, NJ:** "In May 2014, the Maple Shade Soccer Club lost their club president of over 15 years and soccer coach, Lee Sharples, to an unknown source of bone cancer. The Maple Shade Soccer Club is where my son participated in playing soccer. Coach Lee impacted not only his four daughters who grew up in the club, but also countless young players from the recreational division all the way up to the travel level. These players all learned valuable life skills through Coach Lee and of course the love of playing soccer. Coach Lee felt so passionate about the sport that he remained on the field coaching until he was physically unable to. In honor of Coach Lee, the club has been fortunate enough to award a graduating high school soccer club player who is continuing their education the 'Lee Sharples Memorial Scholarship'. It helps to keep Coach Lee's memory alive."

## F C Cancer Foundation

[www.fuckcancer.org](http://www.fuckcancer.org)



**Dave Brinker, Distributor Business Manager - Pittsburgh, PA:** "I was diagnosed with small B-Cell Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma in June 2012. After six months of chemo treatments I entered remission in December 2013. Although my type of cancer is not curable, it can be maintained for many years. I continue to get blood labs and scans every six months and so far, all is good! I nominated F C Cancer Foundation to receive a donation toward the fight against cancer as it is my favorite charity."

## The Therapy Place

<http://thetherapyplace.net>



**Katina Harrison, Distributor Business Manager - Carolinas:** "A friend of mine, Sharon Alexander, has a six-year-old son, Declan, who was recently diagnosed with a leukodystrophy; a fatal degenerative genetic disease. There is no cure; there is only pain and symptom management. Sadly, this cruel disease will soon rob him of his cognitive and muscle functions. He will no longer be able to swallow, see, feel or perhaps even hear – abilities we take for granted every day."

The Therapy Place, is a non-for profit organization that helps all children with special needs so they will have every opportunity to pursue their goals, realize their dreams and reach their full potential. Their mission is to provide traditional and innovative therapies, as well as recreational opportunities, to children with special needs in an environment that is family-friendly.

This is the only facility in South Carolina where Shannon could get Declan the help he so desperately needed. I chose this charity because Shannon told me that she just wants to make a difference in these kids' lives. She watched many other children receive amazing love and support there. It is very important to her that this place is available to children in need. Shannon is one of the strongest, most selfless, and giving people I know! Just as her father said before he passed, 'We are all here to do one thing, and that is to be a blessing to others.'"



*Katina Harrison (center, striped shirt) presenting a group of children and staff members at the Therapy Place with their holiday donation.*

## March of Dimes

[www.marchofdimes.org](http://www.marchofdimes.org)

**Bryan Larsen, Education Segment Manager - Iowa:** "All three of my daughter's daughters (my three granddaughters) were born prematurely. Today they are three very healthy, happy, beautiful little girls ages 9, 4 and 2. This was due to the wonderful help of the March of Dimes and their wonderful



Pictured L to R: Lincoln Pick, Jill Pick, Kensington Pick, and Bryan Larsen holding Makinley Pick.

programs here in the Iowa area that my daughter is now a chapter advocate for. Her own personal story ignited her passion to help all premature babies and their families battle the effects and I am proud to support her efforts."

## Mack Madness



Chuck Spencer (right) presenting the holiday donation to Ed Schneider (right).

**Chuck Spencer, VP Non-Commercial & Cass Ahern, Client Manager: - Burlington, NJ:** "On February 2th, 2009, Ed Schneider (National Account Manager with Schwan's Pizza) lost his 3-year-old daughter McKenzie "Mack" Marie Schneider to Leukemia. In an outpouring of support for their loss, his family formed a non-profit that now hosts an annual charity event called "Mack Madness" each Memorial Day weekend. They use the event to celebrate McKenzie's life and to raise funds for a number of national health and children's charities. Mack's story and how the Schneider family & friends celebrate her life each year us as it was shared recently during the Schwan's national sales meeting." "Mack Madness" is family oriented and includes children's activities such as face painting, horse rides, games, bounce houses, live music and more! Mack Madness, Inc. is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization that has donated over \$280,000 to charity in eight years to charities like: The National Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, American Cancer Society, Make-A-Wish and York Area Down Syndrome Association.

## Autism Speaks

[www.autismspeaks.org](http://www.autismspeaks.org)



**Dan Baker, Chef - Metro New York:**

"My nephew, Liam Dunn, was born December 30, 2009 and diagnosed with autism in 2011. Shocked at this unfamiliar diagnosis, our family didn't know how to cope, or how to help. My siblings and I wanted to offer counsel to our sister Caitlin but feared our good intentions might seem judgmental, or insulting. Somehow this situation had to be addressed as we noticed our sociable family slipping toward isolation. We just couldn't deal with an issue we knew little about.

Autism Speaks helped change all that. Autism Speaks provided counseling and offered resources. No longer alone, the family experienced a true support system that provided an education and gave clarity to a situation that otherwise seemed bleak. Because of Autism Speaks they were able to formulate a plan for Liam and their lives. Through Autism Speaks we were all taught awareness, direction, community, camaraderie, and most of all hope.

Today, Liam, now 7, is struggling less and communicating more. Because of the work of Autism Speaks, autism awareness is spreading and the acceptance of autistic individuals has grown. As a family we will continue to advocate for the cause and the future of Liam and those that share his journey."



Pictured: Dan Baker and his nephew, Liam.