

Friends of the Guardian ad Litem



November 1, 2009

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Because every
child counts!

Exciting Changes and Growth

Friends of Wake County Guardian ad Litem ("Friends") is pleased to announce the revitalization of their Board of Directors, the first of several steps designed to position Friend's to extend its reach within the community. This initial phase of the organization's development includes:

- Adoption of bylaws and grant guidelines / Creation of a streamlined approval process
- Improvement of financial process controls / Focus on increased community awareness

As part of the growth and development of the organization, the newly appointed Board has overseen the re-development of the Friend's website to provide more timely updates on the organization, as well as updating it to include a direct link to allow PayPal donations. Additionally, we are launching of a quarterly newsletter and expanding fundraising capabilities to increase our reach into the community and give us access to more resources that will allow the organization's impact to have a much greater scope.

"The newly appointed Board of Director's is fully committed to provide the support, enthusiasm, talent and resources to achieve the organization's goals and objectives and looks forward to getting feedback and ideas from the community on how to better improve and expand abilities.", noted Jennifer Haagen, President of the Board of Directors.

Barnes & Noble Partners with Friend's for Their Holiday Book Drive

The Triangle Town Center's Barnes & Noble has selected Friend's as their partner for their annual Holiday Book Drive, a program that provides their customers the opportunity to purchase a book for donation and give it to a child through a local community organization. This program reminds customers of Barnes & Noble's commitment to literacy in the communities and, most importantly, gets books directly into the hands of children. This year's book drive will run from November 1 - January 1.

"We are delighted to have been selected for Barnes & Noble's annual Holiday Book Drive. To help us give the gift of literacy through books that help expand a child's imagination is an incredible opportunity. It's wonderful to see our community partners coming forward to help us get our new commitment to growth off so successfully" said Jennifer MacKethan, Vice President of Communications and Public Relations.

Barnes & Noble, continued...

With the help of our enthusiastic booksellers and the generous donations from customers, Barnes & Noble (corporate) collected more than 1.2 million books during the 2008 Holiday Book Drive, a record number of books collected to help needy children in communities across the country! In addition, Barnes & Noble and Sterling Publishing donated another 100,000 books to First Book, a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to provide disadvantaged children with new books.

Take some time this season and stop by the Triangle Town Center's Barnes & Noble and purchase a book to help the children in the Friend's program take a trip in their imagination to amazing places, times and events that they might not otherwise have the chance to experience.

Enhancing the lives of at-risk children and their caregivers through programs which promote their physical, educational, and emotional well-being, and to provide support to the Wake County Guardian ad Litem Program.

Carolina Hurricanes Making a Difference!

As part of their Kids 'N Community Foundation, the Carolina Hurricanes donated \$5,000.00 to the Friend's to help expand our ability to reach out and make a difference in the lives of at risk children in Wake County. The Carolina Hurricanes use the Kids 'N Community Foundation as a way to reach out and connect with the community. Since the establishment of the Foundation in 1997, over \$7.5 million have been granted to organizations that focus on enhancing the lives of the youth in our community. With the ongoing support of Hurricanes players and corporate sponsors, the Kids 'N Community Foundation funds many causes including scholarship programs, youth hockey, educational and literacy efforts, health programs, and the arts. Their generosity to the Friend's program will help us reach even more children in the community.

In addition to the donation, the Hurricane's had 110 of the kid's Friend's supports, as well as Board members and volunteers attend the October 28th game, a phenomenal opportunity for the kids to get to see a game and enjoy the generosity and warm hearts of our beloved home team!

Other news...

NSCU Department Adopts Friend's for Their Holiday Fundraiser – The Division of Undergraduate Academic Programs adopts an organization each holiday season and folks make donations at our annual holiday party and has made Friend's their adopted group this year. They have about 70 people involved and the event will culminate in their holiday party on December 17.

iHeartCharity Launching a Revolutionary New Fundraising Application – iHeartCharity is a new start-up venture that will be developing applications for the iPhone and Blackberry that will allow users to download a charity or community organization's wallpapers and themes for their phones for a small fee, a portion of which will go back to the charity, all at no cost! The application is slated to launch in December and Friend's is lined up to be one of the inaugural organizations available for download.

Friend's Gets into Social Networking – The new Facebook page for Friend's is up and running. Become a fan and keep up with the upcoming fundraising events and opportunities to get involved and support our growth! Search for "Friend's of Wake County Guardian ad Litem" and there we are!

New Programs Under Development – Friend's will be launching its new Computers for Kid's program in the next month or so. Look for more information in our next newsletter!!

Going Green - Friend's is moving towards paperless communication and has set up a link on our website to allow you to receive updates and newsletters via email! Go green with us today! www.friendsofwakegal.org