THE CHILDREN'S HEALING INSTITUTE
Building Stronger Families & Happier Childhoods

THE ADVOCATE

FEBRUARY 2014

Sometimes, the smallest things take up the most room in your heart...

My child was born at 26 weeks and was 1 pound and 11 inches. She was fighting for her life. I had to sit and wait by her bedside and hope she would survive.

I was 26 weeks pregnant when I was told that my baby was 4 weeks behind in my stomach. My doctor told me I needed to go directly to the hospital. I was full of tears thinking my child would not make it. He said that if they delivered me now, her lungs would not be developed and she would not survive. He said that if they keep her in my stomach her heart could fail. I was basically told that she would die either way. They gave me no hope. After an emergency c-section, I heard the doctors laughing. I asked immediately about my baby. I wanted to hold her first and say a prayer before her heart was gone. They laughed and said it is a miracle because she came out crying and breathing at room air! While in the hospital, I wanted to breast feed. I knew that I could only pump for her. The nurse told me that I wouldn't be able to pump with anything but a hospital grade [breast pump]. I realized that I wouldn't be able to afford a pump that cost $50 to rent. I learned about The Children's Healing Institute's **TEACUP Preemie program**. I called and immediately received a pump. After this, my time spent at the NICU got easier. I got involved in the program and went to my first NICU support group. I learned how important it was for Caiden to receive my milk. I also got the chance to hear similar stories of families who were once in my shoes. ***I am beyond grateful for this program because it made it easier for my family to experience a difficult time in our life.*** Caiden was in the hospital for 105 days. I think the most difficult time was the two weeks before I knew of such a program to support us.

- Crystal (Caiden's mom)

Thank you *to everyone who supports our TEACUP Preemie Program and those who attended our annual tea to benefit families and preemies like Crystal and Caiden. The tea was held at The Chesterfield Hotel, February 12.* Lou Boyes *received the TEACUP Preemie Program Award for her decades of work and advocacy for the health and welfare of infants in our community.*

THE CHILDREN'S HEALING INSTITUTE
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Riding and Jumping and Cheering for Charity!

On February 1st, The Children's Healing Institute took part in the FTI Consulting Great Charity Challenge in Wellington.

The event was a huge success, raising over $2 million dollars for local charities! We are grateful for the opportunity to be part of such a wonderful event.

Our team of riders earned us $21,000 which will help us strengthen our child abuse prevention programs.

A special and heartfelt thank you goes out to our team sponsor, JKG Farm, our riders, Hardin Towell, Jennifer Gates, and Sara Nordstrom, and our corporate sponsor, Fidelity Investments.

FTI CONSULTING
GREAT CHARITY CHALLENGE
Presented by Fidelity

JUNIOR LEAGUE OF BOCA RATON
Women building better communities

We'd like to express our ongoing gratitude to the **Junior League of Boca Raton** for providing us with over a thousand diapers each month from the **Diaper Bank** for the mommies and babies we help.

The Junior League of Boca Raton Diaper Bank

To our new volunteer Parent Aide Mentors

Iris Chapman Jessica Marz Glenda Springer

And to the newest member of our Board of Directors

Diane Kelly

Do you have time, talent, or skill to share?

Learn how you can become a volunteer & help prevent child abuse in our community

Call 561-687-8115 or visit www.ChildrensHealingInstitute.org

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Join Us!

Blue Ribbon Luncheon

for the Prevention of Child Abuse

With Keynote Speaker

Dave Aronberg

State Attorney for the 15th Judicial Circuit
Former Assistant Attorney General,
Florida Senator, & White House Fellow

Wednesday, April 2, 2014 - 11:30am-1:30pm

Silent Auction | Chinese Auction | Lunch

Benvenuto Restaurant
1730 N. Federal Hwy. - Boynton Beach, FL

$50 per person | RSVP by March 17th (online, by mail, or phone)

Hosted by and benefitting

The Children's Healing Institute
Building Stronger Families & Happier Childhoods

** childrenshealinginstitute.org**
561-687-8115

thank you!

For joining us in building stronger families and happier childhoods.

Blum Foundation
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Batchelor Foundation
Toshiba Business Solutions
Palm Beach Kennel Club
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Chesterfield Hotel Palm Beach
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The Children's Healing Institute Open House
Thursday, February 20th - 5:30pm-7:00pm - **RSVP Requested**
Tuesday, May 20th - 5:30pm-7:00pm - **RSVP Requested**
Learn about our mission & programs, meet Staff and Board Members
To learn more or to RSVP call **561.687.8115** or visit **www.ChildrensHealingInstitute.org**

DID YOU KNOW...

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

$5 invested now in prevention **saves $25** in future costs resulting from child abuse.

Join the fight

to end child abuse and neglect…
invest in safer and happier childhoods now!

Donations can be made by mail, phone, or online

The mission of ***The Children's Healing Institute*** *is to prevent child abuse by strengthening families facing crisis, challenge, and change.*

For information about services, volunteering, events or donations, call 561.687.8115

The Children's Healing Institute is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Donations are tax-deductible. Federal I.D. #650071524

www.ChildrensHealingInstitute.org