

Gala Fundraiser a Big Success

May 17th Gala Raises Scholarship Funds

The evening of May 17th was the 4th annual Kids' Chance of Maryland, Inc. Scholarship gala fundraiser. More than 200 donors, supporters, scholarship recipients and their families attended.

The keynote presenter was Lauren Sfekas, Commissioner, Maryland Workers' Compensation Commission. Commissioner Sfekas spoke personally of how her life and her children's lives have been affected by the loss of her husband. Her moving and supportive message on behalf of Kids' Chance reminded all those in attendance how important the Kids' Chance Scholarships are in the educational goals of our scholarship recipients.

A highlight of the evening was the heartfelt speeches from two of the scholarship recipients. **Heather Leasure** from Cumberland, Maryland, spoke of the debilitating workplace injury her mother suffered and of her appreciation for the Kids' Chance college scholarship she has received. Heather will be graduating from the University of Maryland where she majored in Psychology and Physical Therapy.

Michael Cabot has just completed his freshman year at Michigan State. Michael, who is from Aberdeen, thanked the supporters of Kids' Chance for giving him the scholarship assistance and the chance to attend college. Michael's dad was an ironworker who lost his life in a workplace accident.

Another special moment of the evening was the awarding of the "Charles J. Krysiak Memorial Scholarship," which is presented to an outstanding student who fosters the principles of dedication, civility, and



Some of the Kids' Chance 2007 Scholarship Recipients

L-R: Chad Free, Michael Cabot, Sarah Free, Sunny Grimes, Heather Leasure, Steve Gibson and Benjamin Grimes.



Key Systems Inc.
2007 HERO Award Recipient

L-R: Bob Manns; Ron Eller; Chad Free; Chad's Mom, Tina; Chris Eller and Joan Manns.

kindness to others. This year's honored recipient was **Benjamin Grimes**, a sophomore at Capitol College majoring in Computer Science.

The Kids' Chance Hero Award is presented to an outstanding supporter of Kids' Chance of Maryland. This year, the award was presented to **Key Systems, Inc.**, an electrical contracting company based in White Marsh. The owners of Key Systems, Inc., Mr. & Mrs. Bob Manns and Mr. & Mrs. Ron

Eller, wanted to help a deserving Kids' Chance student who is attending a technical or vocational college. Together with the employees of Key Systems, Inc. and through various fundraisers, they graciously paid the full tuition for Kids' Chance scholarship recipient **Chad Free** while he attended the Rumsey Technical Institute in West Virginia.

A Chance to Say Thank You

Again to Our Gala Sponsors

Kids' Chance of Maryland Inc. wishes to especially recognize these generous sponsors and contributors for their support in making our 2007 Fundraising Gala a big success.

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Marcon Engineering Services, Inc.

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Save the Date!

The 2008 Kids' Chance Gala will be held on Thursday, May 1, 2008.



L-R: Mrs. Grimes and her son Benjamin Grimes; Carole Smolkin, and Jim McKay, Kids' Chance of Maryland, Inc. Board Members



L-R: Mrs. Cabot and her son Michael; Damon "The Bulldog" Yaffee, local Baltimore radio personality; and Mark Viviano, WJZ-TV Sportscaster.



Some of the Kids' Chance Gala Silent Auction winners L-R: Anthony Crofton, Lance Montour and Katrina Dennis.



The National Council on Compensation Insurance, Inc. (NCCI) graciously donated \$1,000 to the Kids' Chance of MD scholarship fund. Woods Bennett, KC Secretary, personally thanked Lori Lovgren, State Relations Executive for NCCI.

Honoring

some of our 2007
Kids' Chance
Scholarship
recipients



Jacquelyn McKinney



Kathryn Cabot



Kaitlyn Dalton

IWIF's Agents Golf Outing Helps Kids' Chance



Successful Silent Auction Held at Bulle Rock on June 21st

Over \$3,000 was raised from the sale of mulligans, donations and bids on silent auction items. Special thanks to Bulle Rock Golf Course for donating a round of golf for four again this year.

Golf Tournament during the MWCEA Conference raises money for Kids' Chance

Picture-perfect weather on September 25th drew over 60 golfers to this year's golf tournament at River Run in Ocean City, Maryland. Over \$7,500 was raised for the scholarship fund. The hole-in-one prize was donated by Dulaney Motors.

Special thanks to Kathy Stone, Stone Vocational Services, for her generous donation to this event!

Other major sponsors included:

- IWIF
- MedVal LLC
- Maryland Orthopedics
- Key Systems, Inc.
- Titan Investigative
- Asset Strategy Consultants
- Genex Services
- Chasen Boscolo

We will return to River Run next year on Tuesday, September 23, 2008.



ABC Equipment Rodeo Benefited Kids' Chance

ABC Baltimore hosted Baltimore's construction equipment rodeo at Oregon Ridge on October 13th. It was a fun-filled afternoon for kids of all ages with seven schools participating in Lego building contests, safety demonstrations, music from 98 Rock, kiddie games, and more. Over 1,300 people attended the event, including 48 operators. All profits benefited the Kids' Chance of Maryland scholarship fund. **Kids' Chance would like to thank Mike Henderson, President of the Associated Builders and Contractors, Inc. for selecting Kids' Chance to partner on this event.**

L-R: Rona Finkelstein, IWIF's Legal VP and KC Board Member; Nancy Kellar, KC Director; Katherine Emanuel, IWIF Marketing Rep. with Jim McKay, Kids' Chance Board Member, McCormick & Co.



L-R: Kids' Chance scholarship recipients Sunny and Annie Grimes.

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The National Kids' Chance, Inc. will hold its annual conference in Baltimore, Maryland on May 2-3, 2008 at the Courtyard Marriott in Harbor East. Woods Bennett, Secretary for Kids' Chance of Maryland, serves on the National Kids' Chance board as Secretary. There are 27 Kids' Chance organizations in the United States. Sponsorship opportunities are available for this conference. Visit www.kidschance.org

Kids' Chance of Maryland, Inc. provides scholarships to help the children of catastrophically injured or deceased workers achieve their educational goals.

Kids' Chance is actively seeking scholarship applications for the 2008 academic year. Information and applications are available on-line at www.kidschance-md.org, or by calling 410-832-4702.

Kids' Chance Supporters,

Words cannot thank you all enough for what you have done for my family and I. You came into our lives during the hardest time in our lives and you were a beacon of light! You made education possible for my brother, sister and I! You also alleviated a great deal of stress for my mother. You made her smile during a time when no one could smile. I thank you for that!

Not only have you helped my family and I, but you have made it possible for me to touch the lives of all my students as a teacher. Thank you, thank you, thank you for giving me the chance to make a difference in the lives of many children. I thank you again from the bottom of my heart!

-Mrs Sarah Free



Thank you ABC of Central MD!

Associated Builders and Contractors also held a motorcycle ride and golf tournament to benefit Kids' Chance of Maryland.

Enclosed is an envelope for your end-of-year gift to the Kids' Chance of Maryland scholarship fund. Thank you for helping to make 2007/08 a little bit brighter for these deserving students.



Special thanks to H&N Printing and Graphics, Timonium MD, for their donation of the printing for this newsletter.



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A Chance to Help, a Chance to Learn, a Chance to Care