



## Hope for Henry Brings Summertime Fun to Hospitalized Children

Summertime is a special time for children. With the school year behind them, children look forward to several fun-filled months of summer camp, family vacations, and downtime with friends. Because their immune systems are weak, children undergoing chemotherapy and bone marrow transplants are unable to go to camp or the beach because there are too many people and the risk of getting sick is too high. Also, they need to remain in or near the hospital to seek treatment.

To ensure that these children and their families do not miss out on the wonders of summer, Hope for Henry treats patients and their families to salt water taffy, candy buttons, popcorn and ice cream while they play summer carnival games including Bowler Roller, Tip the Cat and Milk Bottles. Smiles abound as the children win prizes and make beautiful sand art and spin art creations while watching jugglers, stilt walkers and other performers. Children leave with pails filled with sunglasses, bubbles, beach balls, glow sticks, and candy to ensure that the fun continues.

Hope for Henry, which brings laughter and entertainment to hospitalized kids, hosts summer carnivals for hundreds of hospitalized children throughout the Washington metropolitan area and beyond. Hope for Henry Summer Carnivals feature:

- ★ Midway games in carnival booths with prizes;
- ★ Magicians, jugglers, stiltwalkers, balloon twisters and face painters;
- ★ Activities like sand art, spin art, and a photo booth;
- ★ DJ playing summer hits;
- ★ Pizza, ice cream, popcorn and a candy cart;
- ★ Sand pails filled with squirt guns, water bottles, glow sticks, beach balls, sunglasses and more.

Kids living with serious, long-term illnesses spend days, weeks, months, even years, moving in and out of the hospital as they undergo critical medical procedures and life saving treatment. As their immune systems recover from bone marrow transplants and chemotherapy, they are vulnerable to infection and are unable to attend school, and to participate in activities like sports, music lessons, ballet or other fun activities. Hope for Henry hosts summer carnivals, superhero celebrations, Halloween parties, and birthday parties throughout the year to ensure that they do not miss out on some of the best things about being a kid.

*Hope for Henry (HFH) improves the lives of kids with cancer and other serious illnesses by providing carefully chosen gifts and specially-designed programs to entertain and promote comfort, care and recovery. HFH brings smiles and laughter, hope and magic into the lives of these children and their families.*

For more information or to get involved, please contact Hope for Henry Executive Director Laurie Strongin at [laurie@hopeforhenry.org](mailto:laurie@hopeforhenry.org) or (202) 277-2710.

