



Sharing "the Hope" with Kids with Special Needs and their Families

# Highlights from our 11th Annual Caroling for Kids 2009

## Our Biggest and Best Year!

Thanks to our friends at Walgreens, Z88.3, and within the community we were able to encourage hundreds of VIP kids (kids with special needs) and their families and make sure they had a wonderful Christmas! (VIPs are kids with special needs, which include any physical, cognitive, medical or hidden disability, chronic or life-threatening illness, or those who are medically fragile.)

### Fun Facts:

- Five Walgreens districts (approximately 170 stores in Central Florida, Cocoa Beach, Palm Bay, Clermont, the Villages, etc.) served as collection points for toys, beanie babies, candy canes, and cookies. A special thank you is owed to Mr. Drake, Mr. Terry, Ms. Pouk, Mr. Setlack, Mr. Velez, Mr. Kobylarczyk (Store #02404), and Ms Rivera (Store #06922) who made this possible.
- Over 4,000 toys were collected!
- These toys were distributed to the 250 VIP families in need that visited the **Caroling for Kids** Toy Store.



- Our outstanding Planning Team, Team Leaders, Musicians, Donors, Hospital Administrators, Donation Drop-off locations, and Toy pick-up/delivery helpers put in countless hours of work!
- We had Caroling teams visit nine hospitals, including: Arnold Palmer Hospital, Celebration Hospital, Disney Children's Hospital (formerly known as Florida Children's Hospital) & Florida Hospital, Florida East Hospital, Grandma's House, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Orlando Regional Lucerne Hospital, Orlando Regional Medical Center, and Winnie Palmer Hospital.



- Toys were also delivered by the 50 **Caroling Caravan** teams to VIP kids that were homebound and by ?? Caroling teams to the hospitals.
- Walgreens Managers helped Santa give toys to the kids in our **Buddy Break** respite/kids program.

- Our partners at **Z88.3** helped us collect thousands of candy canes, beanie babies, snacks, and cookies from the community to share in the hospitals.
- Hundreds of hours were given by volunteers to assist in the preparation of **Caroling for Kids**. Those volunteers included students at Pine Castle Christian Academy and Orlando Metro Gymnastics. We are grateful for their assistance!



- Over 470? people registered to participate as Carolers. (Marie, did you ever give the pieces of paper I gave you to someone to enter into the database?)

Plan now to attend our 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Caroling for Kids on December 25, 2010  
View more Caroling for Kids highlights (pictures & quotes) at [www.NathanielsHope.org](http://www.NathanielsHope.org)

**All of our programs are offered FREE to VIP kids and their families.**