



Love & support for families with childhood cancer

Why Me E-Newsletter

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What's new at Why Me:

♥ We have started a new playgroup which is held in the Ben's Corner arts & crafts room! The most recent class was taught by Occupational therapy graduate students from Worcester State College.

♥ We are continuing our Teen and Pre-teen game night and support group program at Sherry's House with the help of Fran, a pediatric social worker from UMass Medical Center. Our kids enjoy using the game room, pizza, snacks and peer support.

♥ Our deepest thanks go out to the TJX Foundation, who awarded us a \$12,000 grant in November.

♥ The Why Me Family Holiday Party was a huge success and provided a day of fun and memories for our families! Very special thanks to Ruth Delay and T.J. Maxx District 1104 for making this great day possible. Thanks also to Dawson Elementary School and to our wonderful volunteers who generously helped us provide gifts to all our children; and also to our photographers Dave Quist and Jim Ushkurnis and DJ Kathi Zerckle.

♥ Congratulations to the Sherry's House All-Star Marathon Team for their hard work training and fundraising! Good luck in the race and have fun in Bermuda!

How can I help?

- ◆ opportunities are always available! Contact Anne Reardon at (508) 757-7734.
- ◆ We currently have five children living at Sherry's House. Please check our Wish List on the Why Me web site if you wish to donate.
- ◆ Have an idea for a third-party fundraiser? Contact Danielle Perron if you would like to plan your own to help raise money for Why Me.

Family Fun!

Halloween Party- Families enjoyed music, dancing, an obstacle course, arts & crafts, games, and visits from Spider Man, Ninja Turtle and Snow White held at the Greendale YMCA in October.

Holiday Party- The annual Why Me Holiday Party was a huge hit! Each child enjoyed their gift, music, games, arts & crafts, and a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus! More than 450 people attended.

Check out the Why Me web site for photos of these fun events!

www.whyme.org

Upcoming Fundraisers:

Wedding Card Program - Instead of giving a token gift, honor your guests with a charitable gift! We'll provide the wedding cards for each place setting. Orders are taken year round. Contact Cheryl Vaughn.

Bella's Ball - To honor the memory of Isabella Capaldi and celebrate Valentine's Day, join us at the Manor Restaurant in W. Boylston. Offering a full sit-down dinner and dancing to the music. Beginning at 6:30 p.m. and continuing on to the wee hours of the morning. Tickets are only available in advance. Contact Ralph or Kim at (508) 832-9934 or register on-line.

Ceili for the Kids - Join us for an elegant evening of traditional Irish music and nationally ranked Irish Step Dancers. Includes dinner & dancing. March 7, 2009, 6:30 p.m. at the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester. Contact Megan Cooper at 860-933-5942. \$40 per person, \$350 for a table of ten.

Boston Bruins Alumni Game - Boston Bruins Alumni vs. Why Me! Join us on April 11, 2009 at 4:30 p.m. at the DCU Center in Worcester for this exciting game! Contact Anthony Pasquale at (508) 368-6513.

19th Annual Gotta Have Heart Dinner Dance and Auction - May 9, 2009 at the Holiday Inn, Marlborough, MA from 6-11 p.m. with music by the Continentals. Register on-line or contact Danielle Perron.

Ice Crystals Presents a Benefit for Why Me/Sherry's House - A brand new ice skating show fundraiser! Check the web site for more information as it's available.