



Jamie's Smiles

A fund dedicated to helping children
with special needs

www.JamiesSmiles.org

Calling All Jamie's Smiles Holiday Helpers!

Dear Friends:

Thanksgiving is upon us and the Jamie's Smiles Christmas adoptions are in full swing!

I come to you in this week of Thanks and in this second email with an update on our yearly adoption of families with children with special needs.

So far this year we have commitments of 59% of the funds that we raised last year. Last year we touched the lives of approximately 185 people through our holiday adoption program. Some were adopted in a BIG way and others were given food gift cards, clothing, or toys to help them through. ALL were grateful!! We are hoping to help at least that many folks again this year!!

We hope that you will consider helping us help others again this holiday season! We are adopting two families this year and we have a long reach into the community to help dozens of other families as well. Here is a brief synopsis about Mykell and Chase's families this year:

Mykell's Family

Mykell is a two year old little boy who lives with his Mom, Sabrina (age 38), and sisters Kaylenna (age 8) and Ariana (age 1). Dad does not live in the home, but helps out as he is able and he visits his children. When Mykell was born Mom was able to hold him for a couple minutes before he went to the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU). He was transferred to Children's Hospital that day and at age 3 weeks, Mykell had his first open heart surgery. His oxygen was so low after surgery that they did not think he was going to live through the night, but he is a fighter! He spent five months in the pediatric intensive care unit (PICU) post-surgery, where he received a tracheotomy and vent. His heart defect has been diagnosed astruncus

arteriosus pulmonary atresia and this past spring at 2 years of age, Mykell had his second open heart surgery that lasted 16 1/2 hours and required a 1 1/2 months stay in the PICU post surgery for recovery. Sabrina says, "I am so blessed that I have him in my life.... I know my baby is sick, but every day when he's here he teaches me something". Mom cannot work due to the extensive needs of Mykell.

Chase's Family

Chase is a one year old little boy who lives with his Mom, DaiJa (age 23). Dad is not in the picture and does not contribute to Chase's support. Chase was born very early at 26 weeks and weighed only 1 pound 12 ounces. Immediately at birth, Chase had to be rushed to the NICU, where he remained for three months. He was placed on a breathing tube and treated for heart issues including an irregular heartbeat and two holes. While in the hospital, they found that he had retinopathy of prematurity. The little family lives in an apartment and Mom tries to make ends meet by doing cosmetology related services from her home. Mom's work helps them to get by with rent, but they are struggling.

What Can You Do?

We hope that you will help us, help these families and MANY others like them again this year! If you want to help, we hope that you will consider writing out your check immediately so you don't forget. We have done the initial shopping and gotten the coats, hats and gloves to the family. We plan to move on to food, clothing, toys and other gifts for additional families with children with special needs in the MIPP program next week. This is our second and last email update on our donation status and you will not hear from us unless you made a donation or financial pledge that requires follow up or to send you a "thank you"!

So whether you can donate \$5 or \$1,000, we will put it to the best use we can and the value that our combined funds and efforts can have to others less fortunate than ourselves is tremendous. We pool all of the funds that we raise and meet as many of the needs of as many families as possible.

Because we ask that checks be made payable to the "Shelby Community Foundation - Jamie's Smiles" your contribution is tax deductible (please speak with a tax professional for details). If you prefer you can also contribute items, but these will not be tax deductible. If you are willing to help, please email us with your commitment as soon as you can.

Contributions can be made through PayPal! Contributions via PayPal can be made by [Clicking Here](#), then from the drop down menu on the bottom, left hand side of your screen choose "Jamie's Smiles Christmas", select "Donate", input an amount, and finally select "Donate with PayPal". From here, follow the directions to complete your contribution. Of course you can still send your check made out to "SCF – Jamie's Smiles (Christmas)" to us

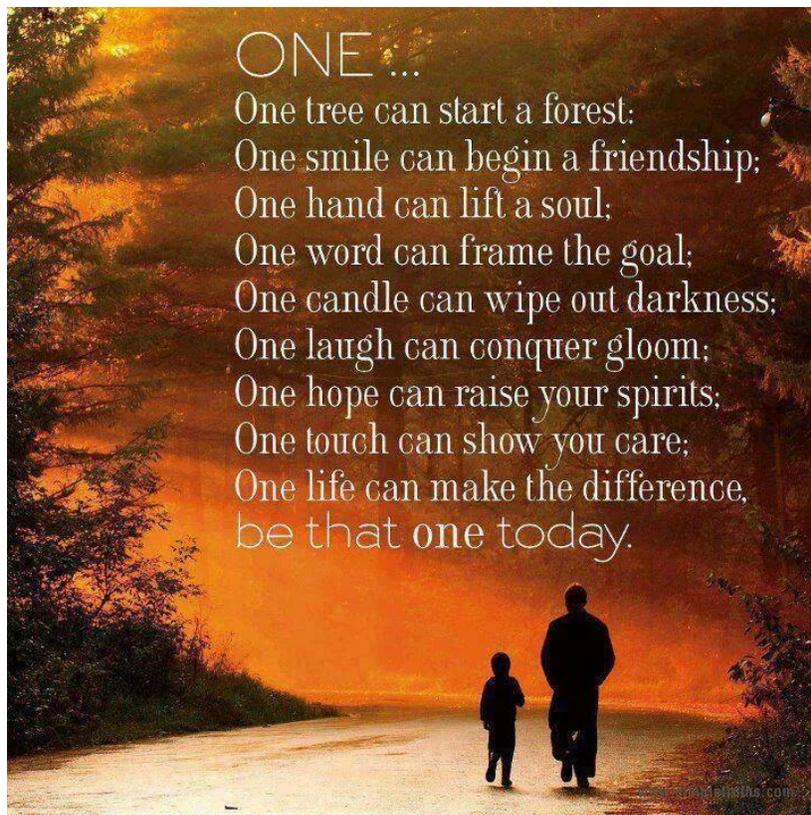
at: PO Box 183181, Shelby Township MI 48318 as well. We need to know what our budget will be to make final purchases, so please help us out by sending your check or email commitment as soon as possible.

For more information about Jamie's Smiles, please call Gretchen at 586-206-5556 or visit us on [Facebook](#) or on our regularly updated [Website](#) and please bear in mind that we also accept new left over Christmas wrapping paper.

Thank you for time, consideration and generosity,

The Bates Family & Jamie's Smiles
(Mark, Gretchen, Logan & Sidney)

Please Note: Jamie's Smiles is a fund held and administered by the Shelby Community Foundation.



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