



PATH Family Center Providing Alternative Therapeutic Healing

June 17, 2010

We extend a sincere thank you for your generous donation at our Soft Lights, Supper and Sinatra fundraiser on June 8. With your help, we were able to raise \$16,500. At our Casino Night fundraiser in December of 2009 we raised a total of \$17,456, which makes our combined total of \$33,956. Fundraising is an integral part of what we do, and is how we keep our costs down that we may help as many families as possible.

The Incurable Illness Foundation is a fully Tax Exempt {501 (c) (3)} non-profit organization established in 1986 to support institutions devoted to research, education and the care of individuals with developmental and medical issues in the United States and Greece. Over the years, the IIF, with the support of its generous benefactors, has given over \$400,000 in support of numerous, worthy charities, including the American Red Cross, Helen Keller Services for the Blind, Institutes for Chronic Illness in Greece, Ronald McDonald House Greek Division, and more. In addition, they provide assistance for education and research in the field of incurable diseases. IIF is currently focusing on raising funds for PATH Family Center to alleviate the financial burden of families who have children with developmental delays, as well as food allergies amongst other issues.

Because of your assistance, we are better able to keep parents informed, which is one of our priorities. We offer a library, complete with a television and a computer, for PATH members. We are continually trying to put more books on the shelves, and \$2,000 of the funds raised will help us purchase more books.

You have also enabled us to provide hyperbaric treatments for a 34-year-old woman named Monica, who became symptomatic more than 10 years ago. At the age of 23, she began to develop visual problems, which started in her left eye and moved into her right. As time progressed, she developed tremors, balance difficulties and severe speech problems. At one point, she was severely debilitated by severe nausea and vomiting. She has gone to numerous neurologists and her diagnosis is cerebellar ataxia. Monica was selected to receive hyperbaric treatments because her insurance company does not cover the cost of HBOT, and she cannot afford it. She was an employee of Gabriel Pediatrics for many years, and as a result of her disease, she is unable to work. At this point, there is no effective cure for Monica. As a terminally ill patient, hyperbaric treatments are a last resort.

As a result of your attendance at our fundraiser, we are also able to partner with Challenge, an Early Intervention agency with multiple locations, to conduct a study. By doing this study with Challenge, we are trying to prove that the combination of therapies, such as ABA, Speech, Physical and Occupational, along with biomedical and nutritional interventions, are effective in treating children with autism and related disorders. Twenty children will be selected for the study. Half will receive only ABA-applied behavior analysis and other related therapies, while the other half will receive the therapies with biomedical and nutritional interventions. At the end of the study, a comparison will be made between the two groups to determine the effectiveness of both methods.

And finally, you helped us provide 10 families, who are already clinical members at PATH, with the funds to help them continue their treatment. The expenses for a family who has a child diagnosed with autism are high, and insurance companies will not reimburse families who attend PATH.

We've enclosed a tax waiver for your use, and if you would like to receive our newsletter and email updates to learn more about the events we have at PATH, please visit our website at www.pathfamilycenter.com to sign up. Additionally, if you would like to stop by to see our facilities, please feel free to do so. We would love to give you a tour.

Once again, thank you for your generosity.

Debbie Koutroumanos
Practice Manager