



# 2006 Miracle Makers' Radiothon Celebrates a Birthday and \$262,512 in Pledges



**H**appy Birthday to Shands Children's Hospital! This year, the Miracle Makers' Radiothon on 98.5 KTK and News/Talk 97.3 The Sky, which benefited Children's Miracle Network, joined in the 10<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration of Shands Children's Hospital at UF. Although Shands at UF opened in the 1950s with the first patient being a pediatric patient, it wasn't until 1996 that Shands Children's Hospital was born. During the four-day birthday celebration event held Aug 23-26 in the Shands at UF Atrium, more than 1,350 commemorative T-shirts were sold. On Friday, Aug. 25 those wearing the t-shirt received birthday cake.

During the 6<sup>th</sup> annual Radiothon, the teams at 98.5 KTK and News/Talk 97.3 The Sky went on air to help build awareness and raise funds for Shands Children's Hospital. Many poignant interviews with patients, their families, UF physicians and Shands HealthCare providers were broadcast to encourage listeners to call in and make a pledge. Listeners pledged \$262,512 during the 2006 Miracle Makers' Radiothon. The Radiothon is also an opportunity to highlight the many personal stories of Shands Children's Hospital. During a family interview, Storm Roberts met pediatric patient Khari Peterson, a basketball fan receiving treatment for cancer. Former Gator, Udonis Haslem, who currently plays with the Miami Heat, visited Khari in the hospital thanks to Storm Roberts.

As a special kick off to the Radiothon event, Children's Miracle Network also hosted the annual Raiders of the Loose Change program to help raise more funds for patients at Shands Children's Hospital. "Change Raiders" collected money from their fellow employees, family members, classmates and friends. These change raiders raised more than \$13,500. Congratulations to Jonathan Unwin with Shands Medical Laboratories at Rocky Point. His team raised \$336.18 and received breakfast and the traveling trophy for the top Shands Change Raider. The top fundraising raider overall was 7-year-old Alton Terry from Bronson. Alton raised \$5,377.84 for Children's Miracle Network.

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Chris Wells and Storm Roberts with Brooke Emery and her mom, Elise. Brooke is being treated at Shands Children's Hospital for a brain tumor.



Former Gator Udonis Haslem meets Khari Peterson, a pediatric patient being treated for cancer.



Chelsea Bell, a patient treated for renal failure, during her Radiothon interview.



Bob Rose and Jay Anderson pose with the Naylor family. Samuel had surgery at Shands Children's Hospital at 26 months old.



Storm Roberts and Chris Wells with Alton Terry – a 7 year old who raised more than \$5,300 for the Raiders of the Loose Change program.



Tyler Youtz gives the "go-ahead" to receive 90 pledges. Tyler wrote a book called "Tyler vs. the Tumor."