

Volunteer Spotlight

Our Champion Ed Mills!

Tallahassee resident Ed Mills began his association with Children's Miracle Network shortly after the day his daughter Kayla was born. Kayla came into the world with severe meconium poisoning which jeopardized her life. After being told that his daughter was going to have to be air lifted to Shands Children's Hospital at UF for treatment, Ed was also told that he was going to have to go in and tell his wife Pam that their daughter would probably not make it through this fight. Kayla did make it thanks to the University of Florida physicians and state-of-the-art medical treatment at Shands. Since this time, Ed, along with his wife Pam and a very healthy Kayla, have dedicated much of their time raising funds and awareness for Children's Miracle Network in the Tallahassee area. Ed wanted to do something that would really impact the Tallahassee community. Through his commitment and dedication to Shands, he began the Tally Awards – The Peoples Choice Awards to recognize the best business in Tallahassee, benefiting Children's Miracle Network. The second annual Tally Awards Gala was held Jan. 12. Ed and his family are extremely active in other Children's Miracle Network events around Tallahassee and are always there to lend a hand and take a photo or two.



Pam, Ed and Kayla Mills

Pam and Kayla recently received accolades at the Women Working Magic event recognizing them for their volunteer work with Children's Miracle Network. Congratulations! Children's Miracle Network at Shands Children's Hospitals is thankful for our many volunteers like Ed Mills. Without people like him, we could not raise the necessary funds to provide the children of this area with the best medical care when they need it.

Did you know?

♥ On Sept. 29, 2006, a 9-year-old Florida boy, Alex Wood, became the state's first patient to receive the Berlin Heart, a mechanical heart device sized specifically for children. University of Florida surgeons implanted the device, designed to boost his failing heart's pumping action until a donor organ became available. It was nearly a five-hour procedure performed at Shands Children's Hospital at UF.

... another First in Florida at Shands Children's Hospitals.



Photo: Sarah Kiewel/ UF Health Science Center

Since receiving the Berlin Heart, Alex returned home with a new heart on March 9, 2007, after a 7-month stay in the hospital.

Alex Wood with his surgeon - Mark Bleiweis, MD, director of the UF Pediatrics Congenital Heart Center and UF associate professor of pediatrics.

Next time you send flowers, send our kids something too.

When you go online to order FTD flowers, FTD will send 15% of the total purchase price to your Children's Miracle Network hospital!

Thank you for helping kids in our community get the care they need!



To make sure a portion of your FTD Gift and Flower order(s) goes to Children's Miracle Network at Shands Children's Hospital, order On-line to support us through our website link at:

www.shandskids.org