

# Facts about Congenital Heart Defects

## What is a congenital heart defect (CHD)?

- ♥ Congenital heart defects are present at birth. CHDs can be structural problems with a baby's heart affecting how blood flows through the body, and/or a CHD may affect a heart's electrical system.
- ♥ There are more than 40 types of CHDs and can range in complexity from mild to severe.

## How common are congenital heart defects?

- ♥ An average of 1 in 100 babies is born with a heart defect. About 1 in 4 babies born with a CHD will have critical congenital heart disease. **CHDs are the most common of all birth defects.**
- ♥ It is estimated more than 2 million people in the United States living with congenital heart disease. Because of advances in treatment, people born with CHD are living longer, healthier lives.

## What are common symptoms of CHD?

Signs and symptoms depend on type and severity of the defect, although sometimes, there are no obvious symptoms. Common signs and symptoms are:

- ♥ very pale or gray skin tone
- ♥ blueish-tinted nails or lips that may last or come and go with activity or exertion
- ♥ fast, labored or troubled breathing; retracting
- ♥ unusual drowsiness
- ♥ easily fatigued, unable to stay awake for feeding

## Lifelong Care

Even with improved treatments, almost all people with congenital heart disease are never cured, even if their heart has been repaired through surgical intervention.

As a person with CHD grows and ages, more problems may occur. They may need additional medication, surgeries or other procedures throughout their lives to ensure good health. It is very important for people with CHD to pursue lifelong care with a pediatric or adult congenital cardiologist.

\* Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Supporting, educating and connecting families affected by congenital heart defects and other pediatric heart diseases.  
P.O. Box 180423  
Tallahassee, FL 32318



A good exercise for the heart is to bend down and help another up.



## To Join Broken Hearts of Florida or, Make a Donation

To join Broken Hearts, please find us on Facebook at [facebook.com/BrokenHeartsofFlorida](https://facebook.com/BrokenHeartsofFlorida) and like our page.

### Helping Heart Families

Founded on the premise that “a good exercise for the heart is to bend down and help another up,” **Broken Hearts’ mission is simple:** support, educate and connect families affected by congenital heart defects and other acquired pediatric heart diseases.

**Broken Hearts’ vision** is that every family who needs us will find us, and that every family who finds us will be helped. We connect heart families so we can give and receive the support, understanding and compassion to not just endure, but to live, laugh and thrive.

### Broken Hearts Chapters

Our families are from all over Florida, and we have chapters based in the Big Bend region and in the Gainesville/Ocala area. Contact us to find a chapter or family near you.

### Programs & Services

- ♥ **Food from the Heart Pantry** – source of free, quick, nutritious snacks and light meals, available to families staying in the Pediatric Cardiac Intensive Care Unit at UF Health Shands Children’s Hospital, Gainesville
- ♥ **BHF Financial Assistance Programs** – financial relief program for heart families who need assistance during a planned or unexpected hospital stay

- ♥ **May Day Picnic** – annual event in Gainesville, Florida, primarily for families treated at the UF Health Congenital Heart Center (Gainesville & Jacksonville) and their CHC caregivers
- ♥ **Care Packages** – goody bags filled with toys and toiletries for children and families who are in the hospital for surgery or procedure
- ♥ **PCICU Family Dinners** – a mostly weekly event, held in Pediatric Cardiac Intensive Care Unit at UF Health Shands Children’s Hospital, Gainesville; free, complete dinner provided to families in the unit

### Donations

Broken Hearts is entirely volunteer-driven; 100 percent of its proceeds go back into the organization to support its programs and services.

BHF is an IRS-recognized charity so your contribution is a tax-deductible donation. BHF’s taxpayer ID number is 26-0244299.

BHF currently accepts donations online via PayPal, credit card payments via Square, and checks or cash.

### More Information

For more information, contact us at [info@brokenheartsfloida.org](mailto:info@brokenheartsfloida.org) or 850.668.5864.

Please send your name, CHD survivor’s name, and contact information to [info@brokenheartsfloida.org](mailto:info@brokenheartsfloida.org), or send it via message on Facebook at [facebook.com/BrokenHeartsofFlorida](https://facebook.com/BrokenHeartsofFlorida), or snail-mail it to the address below.

To make a donation to Broken Hearts, you may mail a check to the address below, or go online at <http://bit.ly/23w2DKP> and make a donation through PayPal.

Thank you for joining and supporting Broken Hearts of Florida, a nonprofit organization that supports, educates and connects families affected by congenital heart disease.

P.O. Box 180423 | Tallahassee, FL 32318  
Office: 850.668.5864 | Fax: 850.668.5865  
[www.brokenheartsfloida.org](http://www.brokenheartsfloida.org)  
[info@brokenheartsfloida.org](mailto:info@brokenheartsfloida.org)  
[facebook.com/BrokenHeartsofFlorida](https://facebook.com/BrokenHeartsofFlorida)  
Twitter: @BrknHrtsFL



## Financial Assistance Request

Broken Hearts of Florida Inc. provides financial assistance to families in need, who have a planned medical procedure, unplanned medical situation or health crisis, need assistance to attend a regular appointment, or are having a financial hardship because of unpaid leave or unemployment directly related to a congenital/pediatric heart condition. Information provided on this request will be kept confidential to the governing board of Broken Hearts of Florida. Please review the entire request form prior to filling it out to ensure eligibility and that application is submitted correctly.

### Eligibility Criteria:

Applicant must meet all three levels of criteria.

- ☐ You must have a financial need and your financial need must be related to a congenital heart condition or other pediatric heart disease. The following are examples of financial need related to congenital heart condition/pediatric heart disease. (This list does not include all possible situations that may be eligible.):
  - a. patient scheduled for congenital/pediatric heart-related surgery
  - b. congenital/pediatric heart patient has medical crisis related to congenital/pediatric heart condition
  - c. patient must attend heart-related appointment out-of-town (need would include money for gas)
  - d. financial hardship due to unpaid leave from work because of congenital/pediatric heart condition
- ☐ Congenital/pediatric heart patient must live in Florida and/or be treated at a Florida-based hospital, clinic or other medical facility.
- ☐ Congenital/pediatric heart patient and/or patient's family must have a physician, case manager/nurse, physician's assistant, case/social worker willing to write a letter of support/recommendation.
- ☐ Have not met the annual maximum assistance allowed of \$200/year.

### Follow these instructions:

1. Fill out form completely. Incomplete forms will not be considered.
2. Secure a minimum of one letter of support/recommendation from your social worker/case worker, physician or nurse.
3. Send the application by fax to 850.668.5865, or scan them and email them to [resources@brokenheartsofflorida.org](mailto:resources@brokenheartsofflorida.org), or mail documents to Broken Hearts of Florida, Attn: Kim Rooks, PO Box 180423, Tallahassee, FL 32318.

### Once your request is received:

1. Expect a reply within 48 hours letting you know whether your request has been approved.
2. If your request is approved, expect assistance within 5 business days of your initial request.
3. If you receive assistance, please confirm receipt by emailing [resources@brokenheartsofflorida.org](mailto:resources@brokenheartsofflorida.org) with the subject line "Assistance Received for [your name]," or by calling and leaving a message at 850.668.5864.



## Financial Assistance Request

Date of Request \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

County of Residence \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Other contact number \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Facebook (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Patient Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Congenital Heart/Pediatric Heart Condition \_\_\_\_\_

### Financial Assistance Request(s) (Not to exceed annual maximum of \$200):

- ☐ Mortgage/Rental Payment Amount: \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Vehicle Payment Amount: \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Utility Bill Amount: \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Cell Phone Payment Amount: \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Gas Money (please indicate preferred gas company) \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Grocery Money (please indicate preferred grocery store) \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Co-Pays (please indicate doctors office or hospital) \_\_\_\_\_

**Briefly explain your need for financial assistance:** \_\_\_\_\_

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## Home Away From Home Program Criteria / Application Instructions

Broken Hearts of Florida Inc. provides financial assistance to families in need, who have a planned medical procedure, unplanned medical situation or health crisis, need assistance to attend a regular appointment, or are having a financial hardship because of unpaid leave or unemployment directly related to a congenital/pediatric heart condition. Information provided on this request will be kept confidential to the governing board of Broken Hearts of Florida. Please review the entire request form prior to filling it out to ensure eligibility and that application is submitted correctly. Broken Hearts will try to the best of its ability to provide the amount requested, however, financial assistance awards are based not only on applicants' needs, but also on how many other applicants there are, and availability of funds.

### Eligibility Criteria:

Applicant must meet all three levels of criteria.

- ☐ Home Away From Home is a program specifically for pediatric heart families living in one of these Florida counties: Gadsden, Franklin, Jefferson, Leon, Liberty, Madison, Taylor, Wakulla.
- ☐ You must have a financial need and your financial need must be related to a congenital heart condition or other pediatric heart disease. The following are examples of financial need related to congenital heart condition/pediatric heart disease. (This list does not include all possible situations that may be eligible.):
  - a. patient scheduled for congenital/pediatric heart-related surgery
  - b. congenital/pediatric heart patient has medical crisis related to congenital/pediatric heart condition
  - c. patient must attend heart-related appointment out-of-town (need would include money for gas)
  - d. financial hardship due to unpaid leave from work because of congenital/pediatric heart condition
- ☐ Congenital/pediatric heart patient must live in Florida and/or be treated at a Florida-based hospital, clinic or other medical facility.
- ☐ Congenital/pediatric heart patient and/or patient's family must have a physician, case manager/nurse, physician's assistant, case/social worker willing to write a letters of support/recommendation.
- ☐ Family agrees to stay at Ronald McDonald House (if available), one of the three BHF partner hotels (Baymont Inn & Suites, Red Roof Inn, Best Western Plus Gateway Grand), or has negotiated own comparable rate at other hotel
- ☐ Have not been granted assistance from Broken Hearts of Florida in the past 12 months.

### Follow these instructions:

1. Fill out form completely. Please be sure to explain your situation and why you need financial assistance. Broken Hearts is unable to consider incomplete applications.
2. Secure two letters of support/recommendation from your social worker/case worker, physician or nurse.
  - a. Confirmation of surgery date and estimated length of stay
  - b. Confirmation of financial need
3. Send the application by fax to 850.668.5865, or scan them and email them to [resources@brokenheartsoflorida.org](mailto:resources@brokenheartsoflorida.org), or mail documents to Broken Hearts of Florida, Attn: Kim Rooks, PO Box 180423, Tallahassee, FL 32318.

### Once your request is received:

1. Expect a reply within 48 hours letting you know whether your request has been approved.
2. If your request is approved, expect assistance within 5 business days of your initial request.
3. If you receive assistance, please confirm receipt by emailing [resources@brokenheartsoflorida.org](mailto:resources@brokenheartsoflorida.org) with the subject line "Assistance Received for [your name]," or by calling and leaving a message at 850.668.5864.



## Home Away From Home Program Financial Request

Date of Request \_\_\_\_\_

Parents/Guardians Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Facebook \_\_\_\_\_

Patient Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Congenital Heart/Pediatric Heart Condition \_\_\_\_\_

Reason for Hospital Admission: \_\_\_\_\_

Est Length of Stay (ranges are OK): \_\_\_\_\_ Travel Distance (miles): \_\_\_\_\_

If taking unpaid leave, for how long: \_\_\_\_\_ Other expenses or income decreases: \_\_\_\_\_

### Financial Assistance Request(s) (Estimates/Ranges are OK):

☐ Lodging Amount Requested: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Transportation (gas, rental car) Amount Provided: \_\_\_\_\_ \$50 gas gift card will be provided

☐ Meals Amount Requested: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ We understand that by accepting funding through BHF's Home Away From Home Program, we will take advantage of reduced-cost lodging at the Ronald McDonald House (if available), or one of BHF's partner hotels (Baymont Inn & Suites, Best Western Plus Gateway Grand or Red Roof Inn), or we will negotiate a comparable rate at another hotel.

☐ We understand that snacks and meals are available in BHF's Food from the Heart Pantry and during BHF's Wednesday Night Family Dinners in the pediatric intensive care unit at UF Health Shands Children's Hospital.

**Briefly explain your current need for financial assistance:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**My signature affirms the information provided is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge:**

Sign: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



**CHARLIE CRIST**  
GOVERNOR

**CONGENITAL HEART DEFECT AWARENESS WEEK**

**WHEREAS**, congenital heart defects are among the Florida's most common birth defects;  
and

**WHEREAS**, there are more than 35 identified forms of congenital heart defects; and

**WHEREAS**, approximately more than 40,000 children in the United States are born with a  
Congenital Heart Defect; and

**WHEREAS**, it is important for parents and physicians to recognize the warning signs of  
newborns with a congenital heart defect, because early treatment is critical in combating  
this devastating condition; and

**WHEREAS**, congenital heart defect awareness week is a positive step in increasing public  
awareness about this deadly disease;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Charlie Crist, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend  
greetings and best wishes to all observing February 7-14, 2010 as ***Congenital Heart  
Defect Awareness Week.***



**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I  
have hereunto set my hand  
and caused the Great Seal of  
the State of Florida to be  
affixed at Tallahassee, the  
Capitol, this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of  
January, in the year, two  
thousand ten.

A blue ink signature of Charlie Crist, written in a cursive style.  
Governor



**FOR RELEASE MAY 15, 2014**

Contact: Karen Thurston Chavez, Co-Founder &  
Executive Director of Operations & Outreach  
850.443.2984 | ktchavez@brokenheartsfloida.org

### **Young heart-disease and transplant survivors gather for day of fun, friendship**

GAINESVILLE – When Broken Hearts of Florida throws its annual May Day Picnic at Lake Wauburg in Micanopy, it's a day of laughter and supportive connections for families affected by congenital heart defects (CHD) and other pediatric heart diseases.

Up to 300 people – from all parts of northwest, northeast and central Florida – are expected to gather for BHF's 5<sup>th</sup> Annual May Day Picnic on May 17, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Cypress Lodge/Lake Wauburg, at the UF Recreational Facility in Micanopy.

"Our families come not only for the awesome activities, but they come to see each other. They want to know how each other's kids are doing," said Kim Rooks, BHF co-founder and executive director of administration and finance, whose 12-year-old daughter Taylor was born with complete heart block, a hole between her ventricles, and with her greater arteries and ventricles reversed. "The support and empathy we can give each other, there's just nothing like it. Nobody understands it better than another parent or another child who's been through it or is going through it."

The picnic also provides a once-a-year opportunity for patients and their families to spend time outside the hospital and clinic setting with their caregivers from the UF Health Congenital Heart Center and UF Health Shands Children's Hospital.

"I love going; it's a chance for me to see the kids we've treated and operated on, and see them running around, full of energy, having fun with each other," said Mark Bleiweis, MD, director and principal cardiothoracic surgeon for the Congenital Heart Center.

Candi Pridemore, who serves as chapter leader for Broken Hearts' Central Florida chapter, said that caregiver bond is vital.

"Congenital heart disease is never cured; our kids need lifelong care," said Pridemore, whose 7-year-old son Sage was born with hypoplastic left heart syndrome, a condition in which the left side of the heart fails to fully develop. "The more comfortable they are with their medical conditions and their caregivers, the more likely they are to take good care of themselves."

– MORE –





This year's picnic will feature a dunk tank (dunk a doctor!), bounce house, water slide, pontoon- and paddle-boat rides, lawn games, and a few special, surprise guests.

"What I love most is watching families hug and talk with each other, kids running around playing, and parents snapping photos of their kids with their favorite doctors and nurses," said Karen Thurston Chavez, co-founder and executive director of operations and outreach. Her 10-year-old son William was born with scimitar syndrome, which affects the right side of his heart and his right lung.

"The picnic represents all the reasons Kim (Rooks) and I started Broken Hearts. When you're with all of our families and their caregivers, you just get a sense that no matter what, everything will be OK."

### **Picnic details**

The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual BHF May Day Picnic will be held Saturday, May 17, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the UF Recreational Facility, North Park, Lake Wauburg/Cypress Lodge, 133 Regatta Drive, Micanopy, FL 32667.

### **About congenital heart defects**

An average of 1 in 100 babies is born each year with one or more congenital heart defects. It's the most common of all birth defects and the No. 1 cause of birth-defect-related deaths among children younger than 1. About 4,000 babies die from complications of their CHDs. Although the statistics are staggering, the outlook is not bleak. Now more than at any other time in history, children and adults with congenital heart disease are living longer, healthier, more active lives.

### **About Broken Hearts**

Founded in 2006, Broken Hearts of Florida is a 501c(3) charity organization that supports, educates and connects families affected by CHD and other pediatric heart diseases. With active chapters in Tallahassee and Gainesville, BHF services include a financial assistance program and care packages for children and adults hospitalized because of their heart condition. The Gainesville chapter serves dinner every Wednesday evening in the pediatric cardiac intensive care unit (PCICU) at UF Health Shands Children's Hospital, and also provides a small food pantry in the PCICU where families can grab a quick, nutritious snack or small meal without having to leave the unit.

– end –



BROKEN HEARTS

# *Family & Friends Potluck Dinner Night*

**Broken Hearts of the Big Bend**, a nonprofit support group for families affected by congenital heart defects, **meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of every month**. We hold a potluck dinner and encourage families to bring a dish or dessert to share, but it is not required for attendance. **Attendance is free.**

Please join us and learn more about congenital heart defects/disease, find out more about social and family resources, and meet other families living with pediatric and congenital heart disease.

WHO: Broken Hearts of the Big Bend Inc.  
WHAT: Open House  
WHEN: 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of every month  
WHERE: St. Stephen Lutheran Church, 2198 N. Meridian Road  
CONTACT: 850.443.2984 or 850.228.3200

## **About Broken Hearts of the Big Bend**

Broken Hearts of the Big Bend, founded in June 2006 by two heart families, supports, educates and unites families affected by congenital heart disease. Broken Hearts:

- hosts and sponsors regular get-togethers, such as potluck dinners, pool parties, speaker-led meetings, a Regional Forum on Congenital Heart Disease, and an annual MayDay Picnic;
- connects and matches families before, during and after heart surgery or other procedure, such as a heart catheterization;
- answers a myriad of questions that parents may have about their child's heart condition;
- provides support and encouragement during planned or unexpected hospitalizations; and
- offers resources and information about congenital heart defects, finding quality care and the importance of lifelong follow-up care.

### **Find us on Facebook, Twitter and Blogger**

Broken Hearts of the Big Bend Inc.  
2912 Edenderry Drive \* Tallahassee, FL 32309  
850.443.2984 \* 850.228.3200  
brokenheartinfo@brokenheartsofthebigbend.org  
Twitter: @BrknHrtsBigBend \* Facebook: Broken Hearts of the Big Bend Inc.  
<http://brokenheartsbigbend.blogspot.com/>



# Regional Forum on Congenital Heart Disease

*Attend the Regional Forum and stay for the  
Happy Hearts Reunion for Heart Patients of UF Congenital Heart Center*

## Information

- Heart Families of Florida and South Georgia
- To enrich the lives of families affected by congenital heart defects
- Saturday, Feb. 13, 2010
- 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. (continental breakfast, lunch and snack breaks included)
- Raymond C. Sittig Hall, Kleman Plaza, 301 S. Bronough St., Tallahassee, FL
- No Registration Fee

## Speakers

- **Mark S. Bleiweis, MD**, Director, UF Congenital Heart Center and Associate Professor, Thoracic&Cardiovascular Surgery, UF College of Medicine
- **Randall Bryant, MD**, Board Certified in Pediatric Cardiac Electrophysiology, Associate Professor, UF-COM
- **F. Jay Fricker, MD**, Chief of Pediatric Cardiology, UF-COM and UF-CHC
- **Steve Catoe**, Adult CHD Survivor and blogger, Adventures of a Funky Heart
- **Rosalyn Deckerhoff, LCSW, MSW**, FSU School of Social Work
- **Linda Young, LMFT, PhD**, private practice/marriage and family therapist
- **Panels** with Pediatric Heart Experts and Adult CHD Survivors

## Sessions & Activities

- **Interaction** and **question-and-answer** sessions with region's heart experts
- **Connection** with other Heart Families
- **Practical information & take-home tips** about advocating for your child in health-care settings and school, managing family & marriage
- **Super-fun**, supervised activities for the children, including siblings and friends
- **Happy Hearts Reunion** for Heart Patients of UF Congenital Heart Center

## Register Today for the Regional Forum on CHD

Registration is free but seating is limited. Please be sure to register for the Forum on CHD. For more information and to register, contact  
[brokenheartsinfo@brokenheartsofthebigbend.org](mailto:brokenheartsinfo@brokenheartsofthebigbend.org).

Visit us on the Web at [www.brokenheartsofthebigbend.org](http://www.brokenheartsofthebigbend.org).

Find us on Facebook, Broken Hearts of the Big Bend and Twitter, BrknHrtsBigBend



Broken Hearts of the Big Bend Inc.  
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[www.brokenheartsofthebigbend.org](http://www.brokenheartsofthebigbend.org)

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Karen Thurston-Chavez  
Founder/Executive Director  
850.443.2984

## Forum offers interaction, expert information for families affected by heart defects

TALLAHASSEE – Broken Hearts of the Big Bend will host its Regional Forum on Congenital Heart Disease on Saturday, Feb. 13, to connect families affected by congenital heart disease (CHD) with expert medical, social and family resources. Most importantly, it will connect families with each other.

The Forum will be held in downtown Tallahassee and is free and open to the public. Speakers include pediatric heart experts from the University of Florida Congenital Heart Center in Gainesville/Jacksonville, a popular blogger among the CHD community, and local experts in social work and marriage and family counseling. Activities for children ages 4 and older will be held for those accompanying adult attendees.

Forum speakers include:

- Dr. **Mark Bleiweis**, pediatric cardiothoracic surgeon/director, University of Florida Congenital Heart Center
- Dr. **F. Jay Fricker**, chief of pediatric cardiology, University of Florida College of Medicine in Gainesville
- Dr. **Randall Bryant**, director of Interventional Electrophysiology and Pacing, Shands/Jacksonville
- **Rosalyn Deckerhoff**, MSW, LCSW, College of Social Work faculty member, Florida State University
- Dr. **Linda Young**, local, private-practice marriage and family therapist
- **Steve Catoe**, blogger, *Adventures of a Funky Heart* (<http://tricuspid.wordpress.com>)

Gov. Charlie Crist recently signed a proclamation designating Feb. 7-14 as CHD Awareness Week in Florida to lend support to raising awareness of the importance of early diagnosis, educational services, scientific research and access to quality care for children and adults with congenital heart defects. About 1 in 125 babies are born each year with a congenital heart defect. It's the most common of all birth defects and is the No. 1 cause of birth-defect-related deaths among infants. Congenital heart defects kill twice as many children than all forms of childhood cancer combined.

Although the statistics are staggering, the outlook for people with CHD is not bleak, however. Now more than at any other time in history, children and adults living with CHD are living active, healthy lives.

### Forum Basics

The Forum will be held in Sittig Hall, 301 S. Bronough St., on the Plaza Level of the Florida League of Cities building, next door to Harry's Seafood Bar & Grille and across from the IMAX/Challenger Center. The Forum will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and is immediately followed by a Happy Hearts Reunion for pediatric and adult patients of the UF Congenital Heart Center. Parking is available in the public garage of Kleman Plaza. The Forum is free and open to the public; however, because seating is limited, registration is required by emailing [brokenheartinfo@brokenheartsofthebigbend.org](mailto:brokenheartinfo@brokenheartsofthebigbend.org).

### About Broken Hearts of the Big Bend

Broken Hearts of the Big Bend was founded in 2006 and includes families from Florida's Big Bend and panhandle, as well as the South Georgia region. BHBB offers support during medical crises and hospitalizations; resources and information about CHD, finding quality care and advocating for children affected by CHD; the importance of follow-up care; and family-matching through in-person meetings and social media sites, such as Facebook and Twitter. BHBB also hosts and sponsors regular gatherings, including monthly dinners, pool parties, informational speaker-led meetings, and the Forum on CHD. Learn more about what BHBB is doing to educate and support families managing CHD at [www.brokenheartsofthebigbend.org](http://www.brokenheartsofthebigbend.org).



Broken Hearts of Florida, Inc.  
PO Box 180423 | Tallahassee, FL 32318 | 850.668.5864  
info@brokenheartsofthebigbend.org | www.brokenheartsofthebigbend.org

## SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

### "Hearts in July" Fundraising Event

"Hearts in July" is a family-friendly, fundraising event for Broken Hearts of Florida Inc. It is open to the public and will be heavily promoted to the public via social media, BHF website and electronic newsletter, and traditional media. Your sponsorship helps reduce event costs, so most funds raised go back to the organization to directly fund BHF's programs and services for families affected by congenital heart defects and other pediatric heart diseases.

We are grateful for any sponsorship you or your company or organization can commit to. Please review our sponsorship opportunities and place a check in the box next to the package you select. If you have any questions, please contact us. Also, we will follow up with you soon to answer any questions you may have.

*Checks should be payable to Broken Hearts of Florida Inc.*

#### ☐ **Platinum Pacer**     **\$5,000**

*Sponsor receives:*

- ♥ *Framed Platinum Pacer Certificate*
- ♥ *Table of 8 at event*
- ♥ *Prominent recognition in news releases and any news coverage in print, radio or TV*
- ♥ *Premier recognition in event program, event signage, online presence (website and social media) and other promotional items made available to promote the event*
- ♥ *Frequent verbal announcements during event*

#### ☐ **Gold Pacer**     **\$2,500**

*Sponsor receives:*

- ♥ *Gold Pacer Certificate*
- ♥ *6 tickets to event*
- ♥ *Prominent recognition in news releases and any news coverage in print, radio or TV*
- ♥ *Premier recognition in event program, event signage, online presence (website and social media) and other promotional items made available to promote the event*
- ♥ *Frequent verbal announcements during event*

#### ☐ **Silver Pacer**     **\$1,500**

*Sponsor receives:*

- ♥ *Silver Pacer Certificate*
- ♥ *4 Tickets to event*
- ♥ *recognition in event program, event signage, online presence (website and social media) and other promotional items made available to promote the event*

#### ☐ **Bronze Pacer**     **\$750**

*Sponsor receives:*

- ♥ *Bronze Pacer Certificate*
- ♥ *2 Tickets to event*
- ♥ *Recognition in event program, event signage, online presence (website and social media) and other promotional items made available to promote the event*