ГН RA **AT THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA**

Benefitting Children's Miracle Network Hospitals at UF Health Shands Children's Hospital

JOIN US MARCH 14-15, 2015

at the Stephen C. O'Connell Center



FOR ALL THE RIGHT REASONS







DANCE MARATHON 2015 AT THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

Dance Marathon at the University of Florida is a year-long effort of more than 6,000 students that culminates in a 26.2-hour event. At the event, over 800 UF students stay awake and on their feet to symbolize the obstacles and hardships our Miracle Children have faced. The event raises funds for UF Health Shands Children's Hospital, our local Children's Miracle Network Hospital in Gainesville, Florida. As the most successful student-run philanthropy in the southeastern United States, Dance Marathon at UF has raised more than \$8 million in the past 20 years.

Throughout the event, Miracle Families, who have survived remarkable odds and overcome their illnesses or injuries with the help of UF Health Shands Children's Hospital, share their stories and inspire students. Musicians, celebrities, athletes, student groups and community organizations entertain the dancers during the event to provide motivation and support.

WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO?

All the funds raised from Dance Marathon at UF goes directly back to UF Health Shands Children's Hospital. The following breakdown illustrates how they used these funds during the 2012-2013 fiscal year.



Dance Marathon is an embodiment of the selflessness of our community, and proof of how much good we each can do when we all work together. Do your part to help make big and little miracles happen in the lives of our children.

- Dr. Guzick, UF Senior Vice President for Health Affairs and President of UF&Shands Health System

MEET A MIRACLE CHILD: IZABELLA

"Izabella and her twin sister, Jesubelle, were born 3 months premature at Memorial West Hospital in South Florida. At 3 weeks old Izabella had a pulmonary hemorrhage (she bled out from her lungs) which nearly took her life. She was transferred to Joe Dimaggio where she was stabilized and at almost five months old she was diagnosed with an extremely rare disease, so rare that it doesn't have a name yet. Basically her lungs didn't work and her only cure or chance at life would be a lung transplant. Two years ago in May we were transferred to Shands Hospital to receive that lung transplant. She was placed on the waiting list and we waited nine months for the call. Doctors never thought she would make it. Her transplant was performed on January 27, 2013 and she

was discharged for the first time in her life on March 20th. She has been in and out of the hospital many times since, but continues to amaze doctors with her will to fight for life. CMN has been a great part of our lives in and out of the hospital. Many of the machines used on a daily basis to save Izabella's life while she was on life support were donated by CMN or by their DM event held each year. DM and CMN have given our kids the opportunity to be "normal"kids outside of the hospital. From the Sweet Dreams event to the FTKarnival Kick off event to Dance Marathon and many other events held by DM and CMN, my kids have enjoyed being surrounded by the young individuals dedicating their lives to helping children like mine."





DM BY THE NUMBERS



- Krystina Lopez



WANT TO HELP MAKE MIRACLES HAPPEN?

Contact us or send donations to: Dance Marathon J. Wayne Reitz Union P.O. 118505 Gainesville, FL 32611

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT floridadm.org OR FIND US ON

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