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THE STORY

In his English class, Kevin Garcia was asked to write an essay about who he would be if he could be anyone in history and why. His answer was Elvis Presley, and his reason was quoted from one of his favorite childhood movies, The Sandlot: "Heroes get remembered, but legends never die". Establishing the Kevin Garcia Foundation is our next step in spreading the legend of Kevin's love, hope and joy to as many people as possible. Kevin did not have money, power or fame, but he had what every human aspires to achieve in a lifetime: The ability to touch another person's soul. Kevin gave his all to help family & friends, as much as humanly possible. Whether it was helping put up hurricane shutters for his grandparents, giving a parent a hug of comfort when facing a painful loss, brightening a brother or friend's day with a funny story or making sandcastles for a little boy on the beach, Kevin truly cared and loved every person he met. Kevin was humble, kind, understanding, generous and loving; he exemplified the meaning of a noble spirit.

Kevin was 17 years old when he passed away December 9, 2008 and despite the devastating grief, his generous and loving spirit inspired us to have a toy collection at his funeral. Kevin's friends & family responded overwhelmingly to this request, filling a truck full of toys to benefit the patients of Joe DiMaggio's Children's Hospital. Since then, the tradition has continued and every year the Kevin Garcia Foundation hosts an annual Christmas Party/Toy Drive to collect new, unwrapped toys for children at Joe DiMaggio and Ronald McDonald House.

In the Spring of 2009, we established the Kevin Garcia Athletic Scholarship; awarding college bound students who demonstrated superior academic, community service and athletic achievements. Scholarships have been awarded to the high school students of Charles Flanagan, Western, Archbishop McCarthy and Monsignor Pace.

In addition to helping our local children's hospital, and high school students, the Kevin Garcia Foundation has sponsored nonprofit organizations, Amigos For Kids, St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, and the International Kids Fund.

The true testament to Kevin's legend is apparent in the love, hope & joy that people continue to demonstrate with their support of his foundation. On behalf of Kevin Garcia, thank you for spreading love!





Mission Statement:

To help at risk children and teenagers overcome economic barriers so that they can achieve healthier, more productive lives.

What Does the Kevin Garcia Foundation Do?

The Kevin Garcia Foundation advocates for children through several efforts that include:



Annual Toy Drives for the families of Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital & Clinic, and Ronald McDonald House in south Florida. With the help of supporters like you, we have fulfilled our goals since 2008. Every child at Joe DiMaggio Hospital & Clinic and Ronald McDonald House receive the gift of joy and happiness on Christmas Day.



Help Children fighting life-threatening medical conditions and difficult challenges in their lives: As a Golden Angel Society Member of the Jackson Memorial Foundation, we have sponsored children for life saving and life changing medical procedures at the Holtz Children's Hospital.



Athletic Scholarship Awards Since 2009: our efforts to help the children of our community extends to providing athletic scholarship awards to high school seniors in Dade & Broward counties. Award recipients are selected based on their community service, GPA, & short essay stating how sports have enabled their academic success. Past recipients of the Kevin Garcia Foundation Athletic Scholarship are high school graduates of:

- Charles Flanagan
- Western
- Monsignor Edward Pace
- Archbishop McCarthy

Our Funding: Since 2012, The Kevin Garcia Foundation hosts a series of events throughout the year to raise funds to support our efforts. Our foundation solely relies on the generous donations from local businesses and individuals throughout the community.

KEVIN GARCIA FOUNDATION ATHELETIC SCHOLARSHIP

Since it's beginning in 2009, the foundation has helped establish academic and athletic scholarships for college bound high school seniors who have demonstrated excellence in their studies, sports, and community service. To date, the foundation has awarded over \$30,000 in scholarships to seniors throughout Dade and Broward counties.









TOY DRIVE

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SPECIAL CAUSES

Since 2009, the Kevin Garcia Foundation has made it a mission to help children with medical conditions and disabilities whose families are struggling financially to get them the proper care they need. In 2011, we partnered with the International Kids Fund Foundation to help three year old Joseth Celedon of Nicaragua, who was suffering from an advanced stage of Leukemia. After undergoing chemotherapy to fight the disease, he relapsed and his parents were unable to afford further treatment. The KGF helped sponsor this loving little boy and help with some of the medical costs.





SPECIAL CAUSES (CONT.)

In 2012, KGF was presented with the story of Noel Alejandro Aburto, a 12 year old boy from Nicaragua who since birth was unable to see. The condition was repairable but due to their family's financial situation he was unable to receive the procedure to correct his vision. With the help of the KGF, Ronald McDonald House, and the International Kids Fund Foundation, Noel Alejandro was able to come to the United States and have the corrective procedure which gave him the gift of sight for the first time in his life. Alejandro also received a dental check up courtesy of Dr. Carlos R. Fiallo and realized his dream of visiting Disney World for the first time!











SPECIAL CAUSES (CONT.)

Allan Sekandi was an 11-year-old boy from a very poor section of Uganda. Because of an injury he received at only five months old, Allan suffered from severe trismus (lockjaw). This condition causes much discomfort and can have serious implications such as reduced nutrition and difficulty in speaking. Allan was a shy boy who despite his inability to open his mouth, had a beautiful smile. His family had no means available to provide him the medical care he so desperately needed. In 2013, with the help of the International Kids Fund and KGF, Allan was given the life-changing surgery that gave him the opportunity to live a healthy and normal future.









EVENTS THREE KINGS DAY 2013-2014 Ronald McDonald Houses of South Florida





The Kevin Garcia Foundation had the honor of co-hosting a Three Kings Day Luncheon and gift giving with Latin Grammy artist, Elvis Crespo, for the children and families at Ronald McDonald House in Miami.



At the Ronald McDonald House of Ft. Lauderdale a pizza party, dessert station and gifts were shared with the children and their families.







EVENTS (CONT.)
THREE KINGS DAY 2014
Centro Mater Child Care Services





Centro Mater is a non profit day care center serving economically disadvantaged families in the community. Most of these families come from other countries seeking a better life for their children. With the help of the "Three Kings" and the Kevin Garcia Foundation, each child received a special gift to take home.







EVENTS (CONT.) EASTER SUNDAY LUNCHEON 2014 Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital







With the support of local businesses, the Kevin Garcia Foundation hosted their first Easter Luncheon at Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital. The patients and their families enjoyed a delicious home cooked luncheon and the children were given colorful Easter baskets to fill at our candy & treats station. They also had fun at the arts & crafts tables sponsored by the Dependonus Foundation.







"The life I touch for good or ill will touch another life, and in turn another, until who knows where the trembling stops or in what far placemy touch will be felt."

-Fredrick Buechner