



Forgotten Children's Festival

Bayfront Park's Tina Hills Pavilion

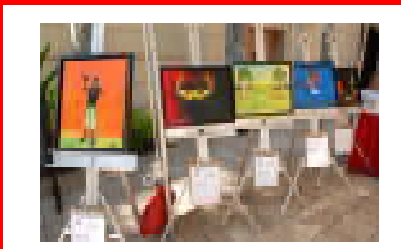
April 2, 2011

10am-3pm

www.BeAVoice.org

DAMIAN & VALORI LLP
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Sponsorship Package





March 2011

Melanie E. Damian, Partner
Damian & Valori, LLP
1000 Brickell Avenue, Suite 1020
Miami, Florida 33131

Dear Ms. Damian,

For over 25 years, Voices For Children has been the one, big difference in the lives of children in Foster Care in Miami-Dade County through our support of the Guardian ad Litem Program. Today, there are over 3,000 children who have been removed from their homes and are now dependent on the State of Florida to be their parent. Sadly, going through the Foster Care System is often as traumatic as what brought them into care in the first place.

The future of these children is in our hands. National studies on youth leaving foster care show that 1 in 4 youth will be homeless at least one night, half will graduate from college, 1 in 4 will become the victim of a serious assault and half will end up unemployed. But you can change that for our community's most vulnerable child population through supporting our efforts; national studies show that children with a Guardian ad Litem are less likely to spend time in long-term foster care.

I invite you to Be A Voice for these children by becoming involved in the 2011 Forgotten Children's Festival. Scheduled for Saturday, April 2nd, 2011 at Bayfront Park's Tina Hills Pavilion, the Festival is a family fun day dedicated to raising awareness of the 850 children nationwide that silently enter foster care each day. Enclosed please find more information on the Festival for your consideration.

By taking part in the Forgotten Children's Festival you can **Be A Voice** for the abused, abandoned and neglected children in our community. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 305.281.4473 or via email at nhincapie@voices4.org.

I appreciate your consideration and I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nelson F. Hincapie", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Nelson F. Hincapie
President and CEO

In the life of every child, there should be at least one adult that stands as his or her hero. Usually, that hero is Mom or Dad. Unfortunately, there are over 3,000 children in Miami-Dade's Foster Care system who have no hero in their lives, and whose voices go unheard every day.



In 1984, three Juvenile Court Judges were moved to action by the vulnerability of the abused, abandoned, and neglected children who passed through their courtrooms every day. Helpless and frightened, many of these children were in need of medical care, clothing, and other basic necessities. Recognizing these needs, the judges organized a group of volunteers to administer a small fund of donations. As a result of those efforts, Voices For Children Foundation was created.

Today, Voices For Children raises funds to support Miami-Dade's Guardian ad Litem (GAL) Program in their efforts to recruit, train, and support Guardians ad Litem, court-appointed volunteers who serve as advocates for the best interests of the children. Additionally, Voices For Children provides direct financial assistance and other resources to meet these children's medical, educational, and social needs.

Voices For Children Foundation works to ensure that every abused, abandoned and neglected child has a Guardian ad Litem and seeks to provide financial assistance for children's essential needs.

As a public/private partnership, Voices For Children provides vital support to the GAL Program, enabling it to represent more children, while leveraging state

support with donations from the private sector.

Voices is now in its 27th year of operation. Since its inception, Voices has allowed the GAL Program to represent over 25,000 children in Foster Care and has provided direct financial assistance for the needs of thousands of our community's most vulnerable.

Forgotten Children's Festival Event Overview

There is no question that during these tough economic times many of us are faced with any number of uncertainties. Is my job secure? Will I lose my home? Where else can I cut back to help make ends meet?

For the **3,000 children in the Miami-Dade Foster Care system** these children are left to wonder, will I go to school tomorrow? What happens when I turn 18? How am I going to make it on my own? These questions are more than enough for any well-adjusted adult to tackle, let alone a young person with no support or resources.

The Forgotten Children's Festival is a half-day symbolic march followed by a festival - a free event which provides a morning of entertainment for families, such as a performance by the Hip Hop Kidz, face-painting, pony rides, art displays and relay races.

In 2009 the Festival grossed over \$125,000 and received over 11.6 million media impressions. This is a true testament that our community is heavily involved in the work that we do to ensure that every abused, abandoned, and neglected child in Miami-Dade County has a court appointed Guardian ad Litem to represent their best interests.

Every day, 850 of our nation's children silently enter an intimidating and unfamiliar Foster Care system. That averages to 6 children a day in Miami-Dade County alone. The purpose of the Forgotten Children campaign is to raise awareness of this stunning statistic and **BE A VOICE** in the community expressing that these children will not be forgotten.



Hundreds march to show support for the end of child abuse and to remember the children that silently enter Foster Care each day.

2009 Event Media Coverage



DIARIO LAS AMÉRICAS

miami MAGAZINE





FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Tania Rodriguez
Voices For Children Foundation
Tel: 305.324.5678
Email: trodriquez@voices4.org

**VOICES FOR CHILDREN SEEKS COMMUNITY SUPPORT
TO HELP CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE**

*National Fundraising Event Recognizing the Growing Number
of Foster Children in Miami-Dade county*

August 26, 2009- Miami, FL- The nationally-acclaimed *Forgotten Children Campaign*, endorsed by Dr. Phil and Cold Case's Danny Pino, will come to life in Miami on September 12, 2009 at Bayfront Park. This impactful campaign will feature 850 life-sized cut-outs bearing actual messages from foster children, all gathered from a recent national study commissioned by the National Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Association. The life-sized cut-outs represent the 850 children who enter the foster care system daily in the United States.

This fundraising campaign is being held by Voices For Children Foundation, the fundraising arm of the 11th Judicial Circuit Guardian Ad Litem (GAL) Program. The funds provided by Voices allow the GAL Program to recruit and train the volunteers who serve as the "voice" for abused, abandoned, and neglected children. Voices is also there to help children going through the court system who need medical care, clothing, and other basic necessities. Residents, businesses and community organizations can become sponsors of one of these "forgotten children" represented in the life-sized cut-outs for \$250. Each sponsor will be invited to participate in a symbolic march ending at Bayfront Park.

For more information and to sponsor a "child" visit www.BeAVoice.org or call 305-324-5678.

Beginning at 11:00A.M., on Saturday, September 12th, supporters are invited to a public march alongside Biscayne Boulevard towards Bayfront Park carrying these cut-outs. The 850 cut-outs will be planted and remain until Monday for the downtown business community to see, in an effort to raise awareness and support of the hundreds of children who are placed in foster care each day. As many as 19 other community organizations have partnered with Voices and been given the opportunity to raise funds for their own organizations while raising awareness of these forgotten children.

Following this public march and rally, guests are invited to stay and enjoy *A Children's Celebration*, a fun-filled event designed to increase awareness about the lives and experiences of abused, abandoned, and neglected children through their own creative works such as art, photography, hot glass, and baking. The showcase of diverse works, by the children in foster care, will be produced in a series of workshops with mentoring artists including: Terje Lundaas, Carlos Rodriguez and David Taggart.

- more -

These workshops take place prior to the event and are designed to allow these kids to channel their frustration and despair in a positive manner. The art created by the children at the workshops will be auctioned off during the event, with 100% of the proceeds going to the child artists. This event will take place at Bayside Marketplace and is comprised of various performances, featuring entertainment by Radio Disney AM 990, Hip Hop Kidz and a myriad of fun activities for the entire family. The *Forgotten Children Campaign* march begins at Bayfront Park, located at 301 Biscayne Blvd, Miami, 33132 and will be immediately followed by *A Children's Celebration* at Bayside Marketplace.

"We are honored to host such a momentous event and to speak up for the abused, abandoned, and neglected children who go unheard every day in an overburdened foster care system," said Nelson F. Hincapie, President & CEO, Voices For Children Foundation. "Let's stand up for our foster children, so they can stand a chance for the future."

With a network of more than 950 programs nationwide, CASA recruits, trains and supervises volunteer adult advocates from the 11th Judicial Circuit Guardian Ad Litem Program who help get foster children into safe, permanent homes. When a GAL volunteer is involved, a child is less likely to move from home to home and they are 95-percent less likely to re-enter the foster care system.

By joining forces with the entire Miami-Dade County community, Voices seeks to raise awareness with a day-filled with visually-breathtaking images, activities for the whole family and the unique opportunity to Be A Voice for our forgotten children at this groundbreaking event.

This event would not be possible without the help and support from our sponsors: **Platinum Sponsors** Bilzin Sumberg Baena Price & Axelrod LLP; The Children's Trust; Bayside Marketplace; **Gold Sponsors** Flagler Development Group; Leon Medical Centers; Miccosukee Resort & Gaming; Publix Super Markets Charities; Bubba Gump Shrimp Co.; Mayor Carlos Alvarez's V initiative; **Media Sponsors** Univision 23 / Telefutera 69; CBS4; Fuel Outdoor; The Miami Herald and El Nuevo Herald; Diario Las Americas; WLRN;

Official Diamond Voice: Comcast; **Official Silver Voice:** Parrot Fish Studio

In 2009, Voices For Children celebrates its 25th Anniversary of being the one, big difference in the lives of abused, abandoned, and neglected children. Be a part of it.

Voices For Children Foundation is a not for profit organization that raises funds to ensure that every abused, abandoned, and neglected child in Miami-Dade County has a court appointed Guardian Ad Litem and that financial assistance and other resources are available for their accompanying health, educational, and social needs. Guardians Ad Litem are trained, court-appointed adults who serve as the representative voice for abused, abandoned, and neglected children involved in dependency court proceedings. Be a Voice, visit www.BeAVoice.org.

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2011 Voice Sponsorship Information

Sponsorship is a wonderful way for you and Damian & Valori, LLP to reach new audiences in the South Florida market, while demonstrating support of Voices For Children to be a voice for the abused, abandoned and neglected children in Miami-Dade County.

Voice Sponsor: Investment - \$1,000

Overview

- Your Company identified with positive community impact and social change
- Unparalleled relationship building opportunities with high level individuals in the community
- Brand association with positive values of children's outreach

Pre-Festival Exposure

- Acknowledgement of partnership on Voices website and social media outlets (over 10,000 unique impressions)

Day of Festival Exposure

- Opportunity to participate in Festival march with symbolic child adoption (2 cut-out)
- Potential for on-site product sampling

Post-Festival Exposure

- Ability to continue Voices sponsorship role for future Voices Festival events
- Acknowledgement of tax deductible contribution