



Home away from home:

The Devon Nicole House at 21 Autumn Street is a short walk from the front doors of Children's Hospital Boston. Located on the top floor with beautiful views overlooking the Riverway, The Devon Nicole House offers 13 families a much needed place to rest while their children receive the care they need.

"..hotels in Boston are expensive. \$200 a night is not unusual. The Devon Nicole House will allow us an affordable and safe, home-away-from-home for our patient families to rest."

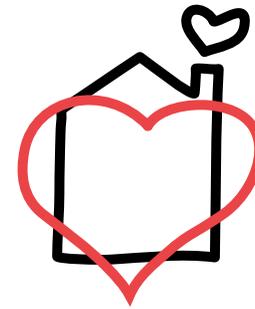
James E. Lock, M.D.
Physician-in-Chief
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Children's Hospital Boston



*On July 30, 1999,
a beautiful baby girl named
Devon Nicole came into this world.
Five short days later she died,
but left behind a gift of life.*

*This may sound like the end of
the story, but it is really just
the beginning of a journey...*

The Devon Nicole House



At Children's Hospital



Mission:

The Devon Nicole House is a non-profit 501(3)c charity dedicated to providing a home-away-from-home for families that have children receiving care at Children's Hospital Boston.

We hope to help families during a difficult time by providing a comfortable, supportive and safe place to rest and still be close to their child.

"We established the Devon Nicole House out of love for our baby girl. We feel that Devon wanted to help other families. If you think about it, helping others is what it's all about."

Thomas Missert, Devon's Dad

"In 2003 over 14,000 out-of-state families brought their kids to Children's Hospital Boston to receive the very best care possible. Now families will have a place to stay that is walking distance to the hospital and financially within their means."

Cynthia Levin
Director of Center for Family
Services, Children's Hospital Boston



Inspiration of The Devon Nicole House

July 30, 1999 is a birthday that Thomas and Deanna Missert will always remember. It's also the day that marks the beginning of a remarkable journey for them.

After giving birth to triplets two years earlier, Devon Nicole's parents expected this pregnancy to be routine. The pregnancy went well, but complications arose during Devon's birth. After hours of heavy labor, baby Devon went into fetal distress. Then her heart stopped. Deanna's uterus burst after a final push to try and deliver her little girl. The Misserts later learned that the rupture was so severe that Deanna was hemorrhaging, but Devon remained in the lower end of the birth canal and the pressure helped slow the bleeding. The Misserts believe that Devon loved her mother so much, she saved her life that day. Doctors and nurses preformed an emergency cesarean section and were able to revive and stabilize Devon, but she had gone more than 20 minutes without oxygen. After several tests, the Misserts were told that their baby girl had no upper brain activity. Without life support, Devon could not survive.

Devon Nicole stayed just long enough to be held in the arms of her father, mother, and grandparents. Thomas read to her and told Devon about her older triplet brother and sisters. Deanna held her tight for as long as she could. After five days, the Misserts said good-bye to their baby girl. Knowing Devon would want to help other children if she could, the Misserts donated Devon's heart valves. Devon's gifts saved the lives of a baby boy and girl at Children's Hospital Boston born with congenital heart defects. (CHD)

The months after Devon's passing left the Misserts questioning why this had happened and pondering the "What ifs..." Deanna underwent several surgeries in the following months to repair damage done during Devon's birth. After the last surgery, the Misserts paid a visit to David's House in Lebanon NH, an organization that offered them a home-away-from-home when the Misserts gave birth to their triplets, and again during the difficult time after Devon's birth. Upon speaking with staff members, they were told of an urgent need for a similar home in the Boston-area, learning that parents often sleep in their cars or on empty chairs at the hospital in order to be near their children undergoing medical treatments.

After four years of work, love, prayers and help from many big-hearted people, The Devon Nicole House at Children's Hospital Boston became a reality in June of 2004. Located on the 5th floor of 21 Autumn Street, just a short walk from the entrance to Children's Hospital, the Devon Nicole House provides a place of rest each night for 13 families while their children receive the care they need.

The Misserts and the friends of The Devon Nicole House continue to work to help parents during difficult times. They are relying on the help and support of friends, family, community leaders, businesses and others to help with on going operations and funding. The Misserts hope to find some generous donors to help establish an endowment to sustain the House and perhaps one day expand operations.

The journey continues for the Misserts, DNH Board of Trustees, staff at the House and so many others now helping to keep a dream alive. A dream inspired by a baby girl named Devon Nicole.

WE NEED YOUR HELP...

- ❖ Annual giving
- ❖ Endowed funds
- ❖ Gifts of cash, stock or securities
- ❖ Attend Devon Nicole House events
(Please visit website for events list.)
- ❖ Join the DNH Coffee Club (\$1/day)
(Sponsored by STARBUCKS)
- ❖ Make a gift in honor or in memory of a friend or relative
- ❖ Make Devon Nicole House a beneficiary in your estate plan
- ❖ Volunteer your time
- ❖ Corporate sponsorship
- ❖ Room naming opportunities
(Call us for details)

CRITICAL NEEDS:

- ❖ Donations at all levels
- ❖ Corporate and philanthropic funding
- ❖ Annual endowments and grants for ongoing operational support
- ❖ Prayers for DNH and the families staying with us
- ❖ Members for our Advisory Board and Board of Trustees
- ❖ Experienced development, grant writing and fundraising help

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Visit our web site:
www.devonshouse.org

Write: Devon Nicole House
PO Box 901
Londonderry, NH, 03053

Call: (888) 594-8354

Devon Nicole House is a 501(3)c non-profit organization.

CONTRIBUTE TODAY...

Please fill out this panel and mail with your contribution to:

Devon Nicole House
PO Box 901
Londonderry NH 03053

*Please make your tax deductible check payable to: **Devon Nicole House**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Gift Levels:

___ Friends (\$1 - \$99)

___ Associates (\$100 - \$249)

___ Patrons (\$250 - \$499)

___ Benefactors (\$500 - \$999)

___ Executives (\$1000 - \$4999)

___ Directors (\$5000 - \$9999)

___ Founders (\$10,000+)



Thank you for helping the dream become a reality