



Devon Nicole's House  
PO Box 901  
Londonderry NH 03053

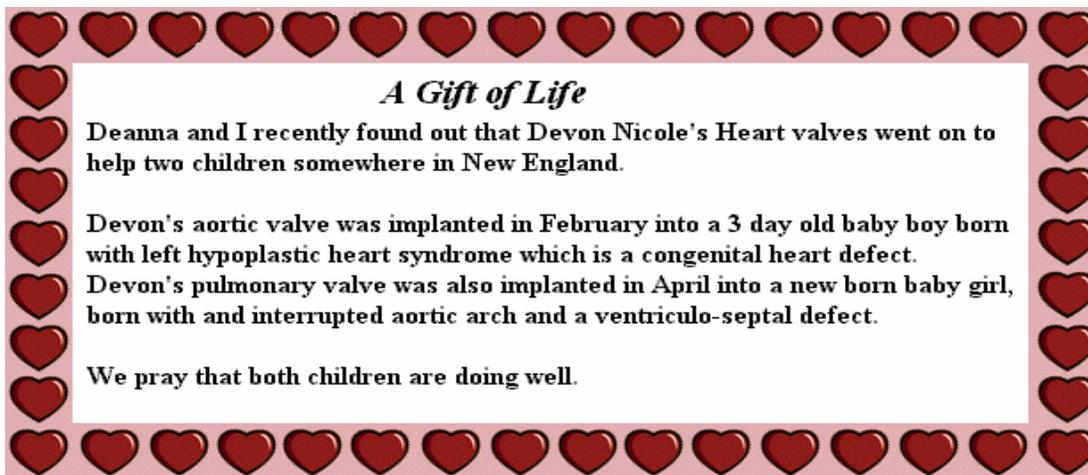
**To:**

## *Devon Nicole's House*

*On July 30, 1999 a beautiful healthy baby girl named Devon Nicole came into this world. Five short days later she was called back to heaven. This may sound like the end of a story, but as it turns out, it is just the beginning of a journey....*

### **Critical Needs:**

- Donations at all levels
- Experienced Fund Raisers
- Prayers and ideas for finding a suitable home site in or near Boston MA
- Annual Endowments for on going operational costs to support DNH
- Help in rehabilitation of the home. (Architect, Contractors, etc. etc.)
- Members for an Advisory Board to provide on going support and guidance to the Board of Trustees



### *A Gift of Life*

Deanna and I recently found out that Devon Nicole's Heart valves went on to help two children somewhere in New England.

Devon's aortic valve was implanted in February into a 3 day old baby boy born with left hypoplastic heart syndrome which is a congenital heart defect.

Devon's pulmonary valve was also implanted in April into a new born baby girl, born with and interrupted aortic arch and a ventriculo-septal defect.

We pray that both children are doing well.

### *Devon Nicole's House Donors*

#### Executives

Jim & Linda Blanton

#### Benefactors

Robert & Denise MacLeod

Lisa Price – Party Lite

#### Patrons

Machan & Kathie Littleton

Patrick & Jennifer Pontzer

#### Associates

Ruth Adams

Amy & Dr. Jerry Marquez II, D.C.

Sue McCoy

Tom & Betty Missert

#### Friends

Debbie Adinolfo

Mark & Suzanne Anthony

Christopher Bates

Jayne Blanton

Carol Boremi

Dee Brink

Mark & Christi Buda

Beverly Connell

Colleen Connell

Scott & Margaret DeSantis

Leo & Celeste Dubuc

Lori Ferrara

Kristin Flanders

Diane Foss

Eileen Fredrickson

#### Friends (continued).

Laurie Gaudette

Andy & Maria Greco

Carian Jozepaitis

Steve LeClerc

John & Melissa McKenna

Nancy Metevier

Carolyn Missert

Mary Missert

Dean & Jessica Ouellette

Janet Piazza

John & Beth Posocco

Cathie Rosa

Al Sablone

Brian & Chris Samolyk

Sandra Shula

Angela Sparos

Pat Steele

Audrey Trickett

Dan & Peggy Vasquez

George & Elaine Wallace

Marc Williams

Ken Zywicki



#### **In loving memory:**

A memorial donation was given in the name of Reva Blanton, Devon's Great Grandmother. Reva shared in common with Devon, a generous heart and joy in helping others. They are both missed dearly.

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#### **Gift levels**

\_\_\_ Friends (\$1-\$99)

\_\_\_ Associates (\$100-\$249)

\_\_\_ Patrons (\$250-\$499)

\_\_\_ Benefactors (\$500-\$999)

\_\_\_ Executives (above \$1000)

## Baby Steps (continued)

By April we took more baby steps towards making Devon Nicole's House a reality. We filed the Articles of Incorporation and opened a checking account. We deposited all the donations that we had received up to that point. More donations followed..

In May we had our first fund raising event. It was a simple garage sale, but it was a step. As we've moved forward, we've gained confidence and started to set larger goals and expectations from the fundraisers we are planning.

July and August were very hard months for us. We managed to get through the enormous grief that hit us on what would have been Devon's first Birthday.. and the anniversary of her death 5 days later.

In mid-August Deanna and I used a gift certificate from Christmas to try and escape for a night. We joined some friends on the Odyssey for a dinner cruise in Boston harbor. Again our path was being directed. Odyssey will host our first major fundraising event in the year 2001.

In October we finalized our initial Board of Trustees. Our team has started to come together. The chemistry and commitment of every member is amazing to us.

Each day Deanna and I think about Devon. We are committed to pouring our love and time into Devon Nicole's House, the same way that we would have for Devon. As parents we looked forward to helping Devon take her first baby steps and grow into a beautiful little girl. Instead, we are helping Devon Nicole's House take her first baby steps. We pray that you join us in helping her.

Come with us and watch her grow!

## Introducing our Board of Trustees:

Thomas Missert	Devon's Dad, President
Deanna Missert	Devon's Mom, VP & Treasurer
Ruth Adams	Senior Member, Board of Trustees
Jennifer Pontzer	Senior Member, Board of Trustees
Jeff Clark	Senior Member, Board of Trustees
David Wood	Senior Member, Board of Trustees
Corinne Wood	Senior Member, Board of Trustees

## Special Thanks!!

To Ruth Adams for all the hours baby sitting the triplets. The time off allowed Deanna and I to work on DNH knowing that the kids were getting all of Grandma's Love.

To Maddy Mandelbaum for taking the time to listen.

To the web design team at Compurex. (<http://www.compurex.com>) for donating the time to create our homepage. Jeff and Brian, you two are awesome!

To Heidi Williamson for creating our logo.

To Lisa Price and Corinne Wood for donating the time and all proceeds from their Party Lite candle sales.

To George and Elaine Wallace and Master Printers of New England for donating the printing services for our envelopes and informational pamphlets.

To Arnie and Sarah Zampi, owners of Luisa's Pizzeria in Derry NH, and their employees for hosting the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Pizza Party fundraiser for DNH.

To Suzanne, Heather and Jason's Place for their work, ideas and help along the way.

To all the other people that have encouraged us with their words and prayers. You know who you are. Thank you and God bless.

Trivia: While Deanna was pregnant with Devon, Devon's favorite food was lemons! That is why this first newsletter is yellow!

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# Devon Nicole's House Newsletter

PO Box 901  
Londonderry NH 03053

<http://www.devonshouse.org>  
Fall 2000

*On July 30, 1999 a beautiful healthy baby girl named Devon Nicole came into this world. Five short days later she was called back to heaven. This may sound like the end of a story, but as it turns out, it is just the beginning of a journey....*

## **Mission:**

Devon Nicole's House is a Non-Profit Charity that is dedicated to establishing a home-away-from-home for families that have children either awaiting organ donations or that are in a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at any of the Boston area Hospitals. We hope to relieve the parents of the financial worry of how to afford being close to their child during a difficult time

## **Baby Steps:**

In January 2000 Deanna and I, Devon's Mom and Dad, were visiting the Dartmouth Hitchcock Hospital in Lebanon NH for what we hoped would be Deanna's last surgery. Months of sleepless nights had passed since we had lost our little Devon Nicole. We stopped by David's House (a home-away-from-home for families with children at CHaD) to drop off some donated supplies. We stayed long enough to have a brief chat with the home's Executive Director, Jane.... She began to help focus a vision of a Home similar to David's House, but located in Boston. It was a first step.

The immensity of creating Devon Nicole's House is overwhelming. The first obstacle that I saw was: How would we ever raise the money? An answer came in the form of a request. In February I was asked to help with a Capital Campaign to help raise money to expand the church we belonged to. We said yes. When it was all done the team raised 40% more than what they'd hoped for. More to the point, Deanna and I began to realize that we could not raise the money alone. We would have to be lead to the right team.

We began sharing the vision that had been placed in our hearts with some close friends and people we knew at church. That is when the first sets of hands reached out to help steady our steps. People we spoke with were not only touched by what we wanted to do, but they volunteered to help in anyway they could. Then donations started to come in. (cont. page2)

## **Fundraising Events:**

Summer of 2000 Garage Sale.  
Fall 2000 Party Lite Candle Sales.

### **Up coming:** December 9<sup>th</sup> 2000. **1<sup>st</sup> Annual Pizza Party for Devon Nicole's House**

Saturday 11am-2pm Luisa's Pizzeria in Derry, NH (rt93 exit 4)  
Pizza and pasta proceeds to DNH.  
Raffle items: 30" TV, gift certificates, and other prizes.

**SANTA** will be there 12:30pm – 2pm!!

### **Valentines Dinner Cruise**

#### February 10<sup>th</sup> 2001. **Valentines Dinner Cruise on board the Odyssey.**

Down town Boston, MA at Rowes Warf.  
Romantic and elegant Valentines Dinner Cruise around Boston Harbor.  
Sit down formal dinner.  
This is an Invitation only Event.  
Price includes: Dinner, drinks (beer, wine, and soda), entertainment, dancing and entrance to the silent auction.

\*We will announce items up for auction 2 weeks before the cruise. Check the website for details: <http://www.devonshouse.org>