



# Devon Nicole House at Children's Hospital Boston



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## **“A Holiday Wish to become a dream come true”**

**BOSTON, MA – Christmas, like no other holiday, is a time of wonderment for children. For Thomas and Deanna Missert, it is a time that they remember their little girl Devon Nicole (who would be 4 this Christmas) and are thankful that the Wish that Devon left with them will soon become a reality.** The Devon Nicole House, on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor of 21 Autumn Street in Boston, will open in February to help provide a temporary home-away-from-home for families bringing their children to Boston's Children's Hospital for life saving medical treatments. “We are especially thankful during this holiday season to all the people that have helped in making Devon's wish come true,” said Deanna Missert.

Devon Nicole Missert passed away after just five days due to complications during her birth. Devon went on to give the gift of life to 2 newborn children suffering from congenital heart defects (CHD) by donating her heart valves to them. “I believe that Devon understood the meaning of giving. She literally gave her heart so that 2 children she would never know could live to spend more time with their parents,” said Tom Missert.

Devon also gave a dream to her parents of wanting to help other families and their children. The result of that dream will be The Devon Nicole House at Children's Hospital Boston. When renovations are complete, the house will accommodate 14 families.

The labor of love that the Missert's started is not over, however. Between now and February they need to raise \$200,000 to pay off their remaining share of renovation costs and have enough left over to remain open for 2004. “We've been blessed with an anonymous donor that is willing to match funds that we raise through February, up to \$100,000” said Deanna Missert. Through the giving of many friends the Missert's have raised over \$13,000 of their \$100,000 goal. “We are praying that at some point either a person or company will hear about Devon's Story and reach out to help us with the funding we need. I am certain this will happen eventually, but until then we will keep doing whatever we need to do to make Devon's dream live on” said Tom Missert.

The Missert's, with the help of their Board of Trustees, family, and friends hope to raise the remaining funds through several fundraisers that include, "**A Holiday Wish Email**", **The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Valentines Charity Dinner** and an opportunity for people to join the **DNH Coffee Club**. With the house opening in February there are also several room naming opportunities available for either corporate sponsors or individuals.

For additional information about the fundraisers please visit the website [www.devonshouse.org](http://www.devonshouse.org) , call the DNH office at (888) 594-8354 or email [tomm@devonshouse.org](mailto:tomm@devonshouse.org). Tickets are still available for the **Valentines Charity Dinner** in February at the Wyndham Hotel in Andover, MA. Pricing is \$75 per person. Corporate sponsorship of the event is also still available.

For more information about The Devon Nicole House at Children's Hospital Boston, or to make a contribution to the project, you can log on to the web site at [www.devonshouse.org](http://www.devonshouse.org) or write to The Devon Nicole House, PO Box 901, Londonderry, NH, 03053. The Devon Nicole House is a 501(c) non-profit organization.