

NEWSLETTER

August 2007

St. Louis, MO

We are in our 12th year of bringing baskets to seriously ill children during their hospital stay. We are delivering more than 1,000 baskets a year with each basket valued at more than \$200 each. We are so grateful for the support of this community including the:

1. Local Schools who are doing fundraisers such as:
 - a. Point Elementary School in Oakville that continues to donate over \$1,500 a year through the “Jar Wars” Fundraising game.
 - b. The 7th Graders at Washington Middle School who write letters to their friends and family members explaining the Basket of Hope program and request donations. This year they raised more than \$3,000!
 - c. The chapel offerings collected at Abiding Savior, Salem, Trinity-St. John’s, and Green Park Lutheran Schools. Pictured below is Trinity-St. John and Washington Middle School.
 - d. St. Louis Community College Public Speaking class that held a competition among their students to “sell” the class on their charity. Carrie Lampe’s group who chose Basket of Hope won the competition and the class made a donation to us!



2. Thanks to the area Churches, Rotary Clubs, Kiwanis Clubs, Walmart, Sam’s Club, Gardens of Grace, Swank Audio and Visual, Sears Portraits, and other organizations that help us.
3. Thanks to all the volunteers who help in countless ways by assembling the baskets, doing data- entry, helping with inventory, delivering the baskets, organizing fundraisers such as our golf tournament and dinner auction. A special thank you to Renee Berra who is chairing our dinner auction and for George Anderson who is helping with the golf tournament!
4. Thanks to all the ladies who supply us with handmade quilts, blankets, booties and hats for our baskets!! These include Laclede Oak Knit and Crochet Group, The Miriam Foundation, Fellowship Baptist Church, as well as many more individuals.

We are thankful to Tony Dungy, Headcoach of the Super Bowl Champions - the Indianapolis Colts for donating his book, **Quiet Strength**, for our baskets. It’s already a #1 New York Times Bestseller! Tony is

the national spokesperson for the Basket of Hope and serves as a great role model for the kids and their families facing trials.



We are grateful for Tom O'Neal, anchorman for FOX2News, for serving as our National President for St. Louis as well as the other 10 branches across the nation! As the Basket of Hope continues to expand to more locations we rely on the great leadership and direction Tom provides.

A special thanks to former Cardinals Pitcher, Andy Benes, for delivering many of our baskets and for the follow up care he provides to the patients he meets. He has become best of friends to many of the young patients. We are also happy that St. Louis Ram Jeff Wilkins and his wife, Tina will be delivering baskets as well.



All of this support is needed as we continue to visit these young patients and bring them a gift basket filled with items to nourish them physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually.