

## OUR MISSION

To provide hospitals and child-care facilities with therapeutic and recreational equipment.

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To support families with Financial assistance to defray medical expenses.

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To offer sick and needy children toys throughout the holiday season.

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To fulfill patient's (ages birth to 18 years old) wish lists throughout the year.

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To assist sick and needy children in any capacity.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

**JOHN THEISSEN CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION**  
516-679-5098 OR 516-679-TOYS  
FAX 516-679-3338

*Monetary donations can be sent to:*  
**JOHN THEISSEN CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION**  
1881 WANTAGH AVENUE, WANTAGH, NY  
11793

This donation is in honor of \_\_\_\_\_

This donation is in memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Please send acknowledgement of this donation to:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Please make checks payable to:  
JTCF

For Credit Card Payments:

Visa  Mastercard  
 American Express  Discover

\$10  \$25  \$50  \$100  
 OTHER \_\_\_\_\_

CARD # \_\_\_\_\_

EXPIRATION DATE \_\_\_\_\_

NAME ON CARD \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

ALL DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE TO THE FULLEST EXTENT ALLOWED BY LAW AND WILL BE ACKNOWLEDGED IN WRITING BY JTCF FOR IRS PURPOSES.

## METHODS OF CONTRIBUTING

### FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION

Financial contributions can be made by check, credit card or cash and are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law. Financial donations can be mailed to our office, over the phone or online at [www.jtcf.org](http://www.jtcf.org).

### IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS

Another method of contributing is through an in-kind donation. An in-kind donation is in the form of giftcards, event tickets, new toys, new clothing or any other property which you as the donor may make. In return you will receive a charitable deduction for the value of the item. It is the responsibility of the donor to secure an appraisal for the fair market value of the item to be donated.

### MATCHING GIFTS

Many corporations have matching gift programs for their employees. Contact your company's Human Resources Department to determine if your company participates in a Matching Gift Program.

### WILLS/TRUSTS/ENDOWMENTS

Please consider making JTCF part of your trust, bequest or endowment.

### VOLUNTEER

We are always looking for volunteers to help with our different programs, parties at the Fun Center, and special events. To become a volunteer please contact our Volunteer Coordinator at (516) 679-TOYS

PLEASE CONTACT JOHN THEISSEN  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AT:

**(516) 679-TOYS OR [JOHN@JTCF.ORG](mailto:JOHN@JTCF.ORG)**

JOHN THEISSEN  
CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION



Benefiting Sick and Underprivileged Children  
across Long Island

**516-679-5098**  
**516-679-TOYS**

**[www.jtcf.org](http://www.jtcf.org)**

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**Sometimes A Smile Is The Best Medicine**  
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## HOW IT ALL BEGAN

In 1992, I founded **The John Theissen Children's Foundation**, a non-profit 501 (c) 3 organization. When I was 17 years old I was hospitalized for a brain tumor at a local children's hospital. During my stay, my family and I befriended a seven-year old girl named Tasha. This little girl was in and out of the hospital throughout the year receiving different treatments for her illness. She received very little family support. She was dropped off and then picked up again when it was time to go home without having a visitor. Tasha was very excited about a holiday party sponsored by the hospital staff and was expecting her family to attend. They unfortunately did not. I was still too ill, but my family offered to take her. When Santa asked her what she wanted, Tasha replied, "I would like a teddy bear for a friend upstairs." I felt fortunate to be that friend. Her positive attitude and generous spirit inspired me. When I got out off the hospital I wanted to help children just like Tasha.

In 1992, I held a toy drive during the holidays to benefit children in local hospitals. During the first toy drive I collected over 800 hundred new toys in just two weeks and brought them to three different hospitals. That was the beginning of what has become a year round organization. Since 1992, during our annual toy drives, we have distributed new toys to sick and underprivileged children in over 185 hospitals, agencies and child-care facilities. We also donate therapeutic and recreational equipment. In addition, we have been able to grant wishes, help families with medical expenses and more.

I sincerely hope that you can provide us with the support we greatly need. By supporting the John Theissen Children's Foundation, you can help put smiles on the faces of sick and underprivileged children.

## FAMILY FUN CENTER HELPING A KID BE A KID

The Family Fun Center provides hours of fun for sick and underprivileged children and their siblings. The center has four separate areas. Area # 1 has twelve 32" flat screen televisions mounted on the walls and each one is equipped with an XBOX 360 or PlayStation 3 game system. Area #2 has three 32" flat screen televisions mounted on the wall and each one is equipped with a Wii game system and RockBand for PlayStation 3. Area # 3 is our Arts and Crafts area with face painting, tattoo stations, arts and crafts and even a nail salon station. Area #4 is our sweet station where children fill their goodie bags with the most popular candies. We also provide the children with popcorn popped right in front of them in our popcorn cart. The children can choose from all kinds of frozen treats from our ice cream stand.

The Family Fun Center helps these children and their families focus on something other than their illnesses or their financial situation. The center is available for the children to celebrate their birthdays, end of treatment parties or any other occasion at no cost. The Family Fun Center is open seven days a week for the children to enjoy anytime at no cost, so they can feel like a regular kid.

The children are identified and referred to the organization by their doctors or social workers. Children ages, infant to eighteen years old are eligible to take part in the Family Fun Center.



## BACK TO SCHOOL PROGRAM

The Back to School Program helps underprivileged children from low-income families across Long Island. Children in kindergarten through high school are provided with back to school clothes and school supplies for the school year. Each child receives new clothes to wear including everything from socks and underwear to shirts and pants and new shoes. The supplies will include, but not limited to, backpacks, spiral notebooks, pencils and pens and other classroom necessities.

Back to school time can be difficult for many children whose families cannot afford new clothes or school supplies. Every child should have a chance to attend school and feel good about themselves. Studies have shown that many children do not attend the first day of school because they are too embarrassed that they do not have new supplies and clothing. New clothes and school supplies are all significant items for a child who would otherwise go without.

The children are given a profile page to fill out which will include: their name, age, gender, favorite color, clothing size, shoe size, what their preferences are as far as dresses or pants for girls and sportswear or plain clothes for boys. These children are carefully selected through agencies and centers across Long Island. The distribution takes place in late August or early September before their first day of school.

The children who have benefitted from our donations in the past have made us realize there is a greater need and we are hoping to promote higher self-esteem as these children begin their new school year.

## WISH ROOM

The Wish Room is open year-round and seven days a week. Sick and underprivileged children are invited to choose from thousands of items.

The Wish Room is colorfully decorated in a jungle theme with animals hanging from vines



and music with animal sounds playing. Toys are displayed in aisles to resemble a real store. The children are encouraged to follow animal footprints on the ground around the entire room and choose their toys. Many children who are undergoing treatment for their illnesses are discouraged from going to public places, such as toy stores. They can however visit our Wish Room, which is stocked with the most popular and desirable toys. All of the items are given to the children free of charge.

### DIRECTIONS TO FAMILY FUN CENTER

From Sunrise Highway: Turn onto Wantagh Avenue heading north and go approximately 1/4 mile. The Fun Center will be on your right in the Wantagh Shopping Plaza (next to Hemmingway's Restaurant)

From Southern State Parkway: Take exit 28 South, Wantagh Avenue. Go approximately two miles. The Fun Center will be on your left in the Wantagh Shopping Plaza. (next to Hemmingway's Restaurant)

**We look forward to seeing you!!**