



CHILDREN'S HOSPICE INTERNATIONAL

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This may be their last Christmas, but it will be a memorable one, thanks to the employees of United Airlines, Children's Hospice International, and event sponsor Sandy Spring Bank

Alexandria, VA – Children's Hospice International (CHI) today expressed heartfelt gratitude to the dedicated employees of United Airlines (UAL) for their support of an important Christmas tradition – Fantasy Flight – bringing a magical Christmas to hundreds of children with life-threatening conditions and their families in the Washington, DC area.

The 17th Annual Fantasy Flight was held on Saturday, December 13, 2008, 8:00a.m.-1:00p.m. at Dulles International Airport (check in at UAL Ticket Counter between 7:30 and 8:30am).

“We are delighted to once again host Fantasy Flight and take these special children on this wonderful ‘flight’ to the North Pole,” said **Sherri Kawell**, General Manager of Washington Dulles for United Airlines. “United’s employees at Dulles are proud to give the children a lasting memory this holiday season.”

United Airlines employees are volunteering to coordinate the entire event – from participating as Santa & Mrs. Claus and elves to coordinating all of the events’ logistics and entertainment.

“We are honored to have had the opportunity to develop this meaningful program with United Airlines 18 years ago,” CHI founder and CEO Ann Armstrong-Dailey noted. “Hundreds of children with life-threatening conditions and their siblings come from several area hospices and hospitals. We are pleased to note that many of these wonderful kids have attended before and continue to fight their life-threatening conditions.”

“Sandy Spring Bank is proud to be part of such a unique and heart-warming tradition,” stated Jay O’Brien, Executive Vice President. “Through their Fantasy Flight program Children’s Hospice International has brought a wonderful holiday atmosphere to our most cherished future, our children.”

Participating programs include Connections Beyond Sight and Sound, University of MD, Children’s Inn at NIH, Bethesda, MD; Children’s Medical Center (formerly Fairfax Oncology), VA; Children’s National Medical Center, D.C.; Georgetown University Hospital, Washington, DC; The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society of the National Capital Area, Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington, DC and Special Love, Winchester, VA.

For more information on the United Airlines CHI 17th Annual Fantasy Flight, sponsored by Commerce Bank, contact United Airlines at 312.997.8640 or CHI at 703.684.0330. To lend your support, please visit CHI’s website – at www.chionline.org – to make a tax-deductible contribution. You also may send a check payable to CHI to 1101 King Street, Suite 360, Alexandria, VA 22314, or make a credit card contribution over the phone at 703.684.0330.