

news release

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Winter Haven
Hospital

Compassion. Innovation. Trust.

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Lewis Family Cancer Fund contributes \$20,000 to Winter Haven Hospital Foundation

Family's multiple battles with cancer led to a philanthropic effort that will help care for the patients treated at Winter Haven Hospital's Cassidy Cancer Center.

WINTER HAVEN, FL – (June 30, 2010) – The Winter Haven Hospital Foundation is pleased to announce a major contribution from a new philanthropic initiative in Polk County that seeks to raise funds to help combat cancer locally. The Lewis Family Cancer Fund will contribute \$20,000 to the hospital's Cassidy Cancer Center. The funds were raised at a recent charity golf tournament at the Southern Dunes Country Club in Haines City.

The Lewis Family Cancer Fund, a donor-advised fund through the Community Foundation of Greater Winter Haven, was founded in early 2010 by **Geoff** and **Josh Lewis** of Winter Haven. The two men lost their mother, Ingrid Mae, to cancer in 1987 when they were 10 and 11 years old. Geoff Lewis, 34, successfully underwent treatment in 2007 for colon cancer. Their father, Harry W. "Bill" Lewis, successfully underwent treatment in 2009 for prostate cancer.

A May 7 charity golf tournament organized by the two brothers attracted more than 80 players and more than 20 corporate sponsors, said Josh Lewis, a financial advisor at Morgan Stanley Smith Barney's Global Wealth Management division in Winter Haven. This year's grant will be the first of "what we hope will be many annual contributions to the Winter Haven Hospital Foundation," Lewis said.

"We were very fortunate to get the support of literally dozens of individuals and corporate sponsors and it was due in part to the realization that this disease has affected our family in such a personal way," Lewis said. "We've seen first-hand what cancer does to families and we decided we just couldn't sit back anymore and just let others be responsible for raising the funds needed for local treatment and research."

Among the members of the event's corporate advisory board were: Josh Lewis of **Morgan Stanley Smith Barney**; Geoff Lewis of **Clear Water Pools Service & Repairs**; Sandy

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Lewis and Brett Barnhardt of **CenterState Bank of Florida**; Wes Donley of **Donley Citrus**; Lora Donley of **Bailey's Buddies Foundation**; Gretchen Zoeller of **Fuzzy Zoeller Productions**; Erin Emry of **Paul Citrus**, Bill Lewis of **Choice Dantzer Properties** and Keira Lennox, formerly of the **Nissen Group**.

Eric Adamson, chairman of the Winter Haven Hospital Foundation Board of Trustees, welcomed the Lewis family's investment in patient care at Winter Haven Hospital. "Cancer affects virtually everyone in our community. We all know someone – a family member or friend – who has required treatment for cancer," he said. "And that's why it is so heartening to see the community rally around the Lewis family as they seek to do something positive for patients who need cancer care."

Adamson added: "On behalf of the Winter Haven Hospital Foundation Board of Trustees and our community, I want to thank the Lewis family and all of their supporters for their generosity toward the patients of the Cassidy Cancer Center."

Lance Anastasio, president and CEO of Winter Haven Hospital said: "Initiatives like the Lewis Family Cancer Fund remind me of the fundamental reasons why our hospital was founded: Local residents coming together to provide for the healthcare needs of our community. We're very blessed that generations of community leaders have stepped forward over the years to do their part. The Lewis Family Cancer Fund will, I'm sure, be recognized as having a major impact."

Joel Thomas, Vice President Development, Marketing & Public Relations for Winter Haven Hospital, said: "Visionary philanthropic support like that of the Lewis family and their friends is key to creating the future of healthcare we all want to see right here where we live. We are very grateful to the Lewis family for organizing this initiative and we look forward to working with them for many years to come."

About the Winter Haven Hospital Foundation

The Winter Haven Hospital Foundation, Inc. is a not-for-profit charitable institution governed by a board of volunteer trustees who serve without pay. The Foundation cultivates philanthropic support to provide patients with state-of-the-art medical care, cutting-edge technology and equipment, top quality education, and the best and brightest personnel. The funds benefit the patients of Winter Haven Hospital, the Regency Center for Women & Infants, and many other health services of our growing community.

About Winter Haven Hospital

Established in 1926, Winter Haven Hospital serves as the major medical center for east Polk and Highlands counties and the U.S. Highway 27 / Ridge Corridor. The 527-bed hospital is a locally owned and operated not-for-profit organization. The hospital is fully accredited by the Joint Commission on accreditation for Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) and has more than 300 board-certified physicians on its medical staff representing every major specialty. Affiliated with the University of Florida College of Medicine/Shands Healthcare, Winter

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Haven Hospital also is the home of **Bostick Heart Center**, the **Cassidy Cancer Center**, the **Regency Center for Women and Infants**, a nationally accredited **Stroke Center** and the nationally accredited **Joy-Fuller Rehab Center**. In January, the hospital was recognized by the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) with the prestigious designation of Magnet status, recognition granted to only 5 percent of the nation's hospitals. With more than ,500 employees, Winter Haven Hospital is east Polk County's largest private employer and has been recognized for three consecutive years by Polk Works Workforce 2020 as one of the county's best places to work. For more information, please visit our Web site at www.winterhavenhospital.org.

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