

Heart Heroes, Inc.
PO Box 340
Boys Town, NE 68010
Contact: Kitty Burton
(402) 960-9287
info@heartheroes.org



FACT SHEET

About Heart Heroes, Inc.

- Heart Heroes, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) organization based in Omaha, Nebraska.
- Our mission is to provide support and comfort to children and families affected by Congenital Heart Defects (CHD) through the distribution of superhero capes and other forms of encouragement and inspiration.
- To date we have sent out thousands of capes world wide; approximately 1,000 capes per year.
- On average, we get about 100 cape requests per month via our "Request a Cape Form" on our website at HeartHeroes.org. We have had as many as 100 cape requests in one day.
- We have shipped capes to every state in the United States with the most going to Ohio, Texas, Michigan, Nebraska and Pennsylvania.
- We have mailed over a dozen capes to Australian Heart Heroes. Other international capes have landed in the United Kingdom, South Africa, Canada, Brazil...just to name a few.
- We have partnered with the Los Cabos Children's Foundation to provide capes to children in Mexico.

It's more than just a cape...

- Over 100 of our Heart Heroes have received a heart transplant.
- Each Heart Hero Cape is hand-sewn right here in the United States – Livonia, Michigan to be exact.
- Every Heart Hero Cape is personally designed for the Heart Hero being honored.
- The proceeds we raise goes towards providing Heart Hero Capes, support for our Heart Hero families, CHD awareness and research.
- The inspiration behind Heart Heroes, Inc. is our own courageous and resilient young children who continue to battle CHD today.

How you can support

- Donate a cape to a Heart Hero at HeartHeroes.org
- In 2013, Heart Heroes began the Superhero Heart Run in Omaha. The event expanded to three cities in 2014 with even more planned in 2015.



FACT SHEET

What is a Heart Hero?

A Heart Hero is a child with a congenital heart defect (CHD). CHDs are detected in utero, at birth or later in life. Heart Heroes may need one surgery, routine complex medical procedures throughout their life and/or may never need a medical intervention in order to maintain their heart health. Heart Heroes can be fighting their battle with CHD on earth, or may be Heart Hero Angels, ones who we have lost too soon.

Heart Heroes have exceptional strength because of their CHD. They show great courage which has carried them through life-saving operations, countless doctors' appointments, pokes, prods and hospital stays. Thus, Heart Heroes have been empowered with a superhero cape to help sustain their incredible bravery.

Facts about CHD

- Congenital heart defects are America's and every country's #1 birth defect. Nearly one of every 100 babies is born with a CHD.
- Congenital heart defects are the #1 cause of birth defect related deaths.
- Congenital heart defects are the leading cause of all infant deaths in the United States.
- Each year approximately 40,000 babies are born in the United States with a congenital heart defect. Thousands of them will not reach their first birthday and thousands more die before they reach adulthood.
- Each year over 1,000,000 babies are born worldwide with a congenital heart defect. 100,000 of them will not live to see their first birthday and thousands more die before they reach adulthood.
- The cost for inpatient surgery to repair congenital heart defects exceeds \$2.2 billion a year.
- More than 50% of all children born with congenital heart defect will require at least one invasive surgery in their lifetime.
- There are more than 40 different types of congenital heart defects. Little is known about the cause of most of them. There is no known prevention or cure for any of them.
- In the United States, twice as many children die from congenital heart defects each year than from all forms of childhood cancer combined, yet funding for pediatric cancer research is five times higher than funding for CHD.

Stats provided by The Children's Heart Foundation, <http://www.childrensheartfoundation.org>