

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



## 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 to children and families affected by Congenital Heart Defects (CHD) through the distribution of superhero capes, programs to offer hope and funding for CHD research.
- ♥ We provide complimentary family networking events in Nebraska along with other support programs.
- ♥ To date, we have sent out over ten thousand capes worldwide; 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 [www.HeartHeroes.org](http://www.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 capes to over 35 countries from Australia, United Kingdom, South Africa, Canada, Brazil...just to name a few.
- ♥ We have partnered with the Los Cabos Children's Foundation, Corazón de Niño and the Novick Cardiac Alliance to provide superhero capes to kids with CHD in other countries.

### It's more than just a cape...

- ♥ Over 100 of our Heart Heroes have received a heart transplant.
- ♥ Every Heart Hero Cape is personally designed for the Heart Hero being honored.
- ♥ The proceeds we raise go 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~

- ♥ Provide the gift of **Courage, Hope and Life** to Heart Heroes in need. Donate to Heart Heroes, Inc. at [www.HeartHeroes.org](http://www.HeartHeroes.org).
- ♥ In 2013, Heart Heroes, Inc. began the Superhero Heart Run in Omaha. Since then, Heart Heroes has partnered with other CHD organizations to bring the run to over nine cities across the nation (and in La Paz, Mexico) and has raised more than **\$260,000** for CHD to-date! Join the Superhero Heart Run in a city near you or run virtually! Visit [www.SuperheroHeartRun.com](http://www.SuperheroHeartRun.com) for further details.



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### 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 fight their battle with CHD here on Earth, but sadly, many are Heart 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 the most common birth defects in the world. Nearly one of every 100 babies is born with 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.
- ♥ Congenital Heart Defects are approximately 60 TIMES more prevalent than childhood cancer, yet funding for pediatric cancer research is five times higher than funding for CHD research.

Stats provided by The Children's Heart Foundation, [www.ChildrensHeartFoundation.org](http://www.ChildrensHeartFoundation.org)