



FORESTERS SUPPORTS NEW CHARITY HELPING UK CHILDREN'S HOSPITALS

Financial services organisation Foresters is supporting children's charity Children's Miracle Network (CMN) as it expands into the UK. Co-founded in North America by the Osmond family in 1983, CMN is now aiming to raise vital funds and public awareness for children's hospitals across the UK through a series of Radiothon partnerships with individual hospitals and local radio stations.

As Founding Sponsor of Children's Miracle Network UK, Foresters will provide financial support for CMN's UK Radiothons. All funds raised from Radiothons go to local participating hospitals, meaning much-needed funds stay locally to fund life-saving equipment, research, and disease and injury prevention, education and outreach programmes. It has already raised over one million pounds for children's hospitals in Bristol, Cardiff and Edinburgh as well as Cork and Dublin with the programme set to roll out to even more hospitals in 2009.

In addition to Radiothons, Children's Miracle Network will also be launching its "Champions Across the United Kingdom" programme. Each CMN partner hospital will select a child who has triumphed despite severe medical challenges to be a UK ambassador for CMN at its annual 'Champions' Celebration' at Walt Disney World, Orlando in March 2009. As Founding Sponsor, Foresters will be covering the travel expenses for all three UK Children's Champions and their families.

Steve Dilworth, Foresters UK Membership Director, said: "Foresters is honoured to be the founding sponsor of Children's Miracle Network in the UK. Children are a priority in Foresters community support and we have seen the positive impact Children's Miracle Network programmes have had on children's healthcare in Canada and the US. Foresters measures its success not only by its financial strength, but also by the positive impact it has on its members' communities. Our aim is to therefore replicate CMN's success in the UK and help even more children get the best treatment possible."

Jimmy Osmond, Children's Miracle Network co-founder says "The Osmond Family and John Schneider set up Children's Miracle Network more than 25 years ago with the dream of helping children in hospitals throughout the world. With the support of Foresters as we roll out our programme to UK children's hospitals, we are another step closer to seeing that dream become a reality - providing the best possible care, equipment, research and preventative education for children."

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Notes to editors:

About Children's Miracle Network – Fast facts

Children's Miracle Network is a non-profit organisation dedicated to saving and improving the lives of children by raising funds for children's hospitals. Each year, Children's Miracle Network affiliated hospitals provide the finest medical care, life-saving research and preventative education to help millions of kids overcome diseases and injuries of every kind. To learn more go to www.childrensmiraclenetwork.org.uk

Children's Miracle Network is an international charity dedicated to improving the health of children by raising funds and public awareness for children's hospitals.

Established in 1983 by The Osmond Family, Children's Miracle Network has raised almost \$4billion for children's hospitals.

Children's Miracle Network 170 children's hospitals in Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom, Ireland and Australia and last year alone generated more than \$250 million.

Children's Miracle Network hospitals treat 17 million children each year for every illness and injury imaginable.

Children's Miracle Network hospitals treat children with cancer, paediatric AIDS, muscular dystrophy, heart problems, leukaemia, sickle cell anaemia, asthma, injuries and many other serious health problems.

Children's Miracle Network hospitals provide state-of-the-art compassionate care for all children. They are committed to serving the child above all else.

Children's Miracle Network serves its hospitals by raising the much-needed funds to pay for life-saving equipment, break-through research and preventive education.

Children's Miracle Network raises funds through a number of corporate sponsors and events.

Donations help insure the best possible care is available when children need it.