



The Quarterly Newsletter of the HFGF Winter 2023 Volume 39 Issue 65

In this Issue

Page 1
March is Bleeding Disorders Awareness Month
Page 2
Mark Your Calendar
Page 3
Calvin Dawson Memorial Scholarship
Page 3-4
Flight for Tomorrow Golf Tournament
Page 5
Volunteer Spotlight
Page 6
2022 Year in Review
Page 7
Save The Date
Page 8
Inaugural Latin Conference a Success
Page 9
Orlando Creepy Crawl Reaches It's Goal
Page 10
Join Us for a Walk

TOLL FREE 800-293-6527
www.HemophiliaFlorida.org

2022
Year In Review Edition

March Is Bleeding Disorders Awareness Month

Join the conversation. Or start the conversation. For more information about bleeding disorders or the history of Bleeding Disorder Awareness Month, [CLICK HERE!](#)



BLEEDING DISORDERS
AWARENESS MONTH
MARCH

HFGF Connections

Published quarterly by
The Hemophilia Foundation of
Greater Florida

Board of Directors

President Pete Vrochopoulos
Vice President Mike Berkman
Secretary/Treasurer Eileen Gregory
Alan Apte
Patrice Bravo
Hector Cartagena
Joe Riggs
Jose Villarreal Charis
Katie Hawkins

Staff

Executive Director, Fran Haynes

Physical and Mailing Address The Hemophilia Foundation of Greater Florida

1350 Orange Ave. Suite 227
Winter Park, Florida, 32789
Tel. 407-629-0000
Toll-Free 800-293-6527
Fax 407-629-9600
email info@hemophiliaflorida.org
web www.hemophiliaflorida.org

Mission

The mission of the Hemophilia Foundation of Greater Florida is dedicated to improving the quality of life for people with related bleeding disorders and their families through education, information and referral services, advocacy and research.

Disclaimer

The material provided in HFGF Connections is for your general information only. HFGF does not give medical advice or engage in the practice of medicine. The HFGF does not recommend particular treatments for specific individuals and recommends that you consult your physician or treatment center before pursuing any course of treatment.

Executive Director's Column

Dear Friends

2023 has already been so exciting and busy. We hosted our inaugural Latin Conference, and it was wonderful. We had an amazing committee helping us create a great agenda, and we had wonderful speakers that shared great information. We could not have asked for a better event.

"Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart."
~Elizabeth Andrew

I know I am digressing, however, there were a lot of great moments in 2022 such as our Flight for Tomorrow Golf Tournament Thank you Rhonda and Brian McDonald for hosting an amazing event. Your dedication and commitment to the HFGF is appreciated beyond words.

We had a great Orlando Creepy Crawl – we had more than 200 people enjoying a scary run and a fun walk. Special thanks to the volunteers that made this happen.

Stay Tuned! We have a lot of great things happening in 2023 (check out our calendar at www.hemophiliaflorida.org)

Warmest Regards,

Fran



mark your Calendar

March 23, 2023Family Dinner Location – Tampa
April 15, 2023.....Gainesville Clot Trot Walk/Run
April 22, 2023Women's Tea Luncheon – Rusty Pelican Restaurant, Tampa
April 30, 2023HFGF Board of Directors Meeting
May 6, 2023Women's Tea Luncheon – Disney Yacht Club, Orlando

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS
EARN COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS

VOLUNTEER FOR THE HFGF

CONTACT US AT 800-293-6527 or
info@hemophiliaflorida.org

Important Reminder!

The deadline for 2023 Calvin Dawson Memorial Scholarship applications is coming up soon. Applications must be received by April 30, 2023. Scholarships are open to Florida residents with bleeding disorders attending college, university, or trade school.

[**CLICK HERE TO OBTAIN AN APPLICATION FORM**](#)

Largest HFGF Fundraiser Held Last October

The 26th annual Flight for Tomorrow golf tournament was held on a beautiful October Monday and raised more than \$53,000 for the bleeding disorders community.

We want to extend thanks to co-chairs Brian and Rhonda McDonald for all their hard work that made the tournament possible. Also, a big thank-you to the tournament sponsors. Finally, thanks to our auction donors.

Join us for this year's tournament Monday October 23, 2023, at East Lake Woodlands Country Club, Oldsmar, FL.

[**CLICK HERE TO REGISTER**](#)





Save the Date
for the 27th Annual
Flight for Tomorrow
Invitational Golf Tournament

October 23, 2023
www.hemophiliaflorida.org



DONATE

Patsie Gibson and her mom, Maggie Schmidt, bring a special brand of joy to HFGF's fundraising walks. They paint faces, chiefly children's.

Patsie says that they have been volunteering for the HFGF for more than four years.

"I enjoy giving happiness to people, especially children, and face painting gives me that opportunity," Patsie said. Mom Maggie said that "she enjoys being able to help our hemophilia family out and do something she loved to do with her kids when they were growing up, crafts." "Both of us love being able to do this for our community."

In answer to how she got into face painting, Patsie said "I was thrown into face painting by one of my good friends, who was the art teacher at my son's school. She talked me into volunteering for the elementary school's fall festival and from there I used my love of both art and bringing happiness through face painting to help at the walks."

You can meet Patsie and Maggie and have your face painted at our Superhero Walk September 23, 2023, in St. Petersburg or at the Orlando Creepy Crawl October 28, 2023.



[Facebook.com/hemophiliafl](https://www.facebook.com/hemophiliafl)

[Twitter.com/hemophiliafl](https://twitter.com/hemophiliafl)

[Instagram.com/hemophiliaflorida](https://www.instagram.com/hemophiliaflorida)

Follow/Like HFGF on Social Media!

This year marked a complete return to in-person live events rather than virtual ones. HFGF funds were used to provide the following services to the bleeding disorders community during the year:

Camp Spirit - \$25,000 was spent to send 22 campers to Camp Boggy Creek for a week.

Family Retreat Weekend - \$5,000 provided a family weekend for 100 people with bleeding disorders.

Medic Alerts and Comfy Caps - \$20,000 provided 500 new and renewal medic alert subscriptions and 25 Comfy Caps for infants with bleeding disorders.

Emergency Financial Assistance - \$55,000 was used to give families with bleeding disorders emergency help with basic costs such as housing, bills, insurance coverage, medical and dental appointments, and gift (food assistance) and transportation cards.

Scholarships - \$24,000 was provided to Florida residents with bleeding disorders to help with costs of college, university, or trade school education.

A very important part of the HFGF's mission is to educate the bleeding disorders community and the broader community about bleeding disorders and to support the work of the Hemophilia Treatment Centers (HTCs). To fulfill that portion of its mission, the HFGF pays for and presents educational programs in settings all around the state including Jacksonville, Gainesville, Orlando, Tampa-St. Petersburg, and Miami. More than \$80,000 was spent on educational programs on topics ranging from bleeding disorders trivia games, self-care, believing in yourself, physical therapy, teen and young adult programs, and women and bleeding disorders including the distribution of more than 250 Fem Care kits.





2023 WALK DATES

- **GATOR CLOT TROT**
April 15, 2023 - Santa Fe College
- **SUPERHERO WALK**
September 23, 2023 - Vinoy Park, St. Petersburg
- **ORLANDO CREEPY CRAWL**
October 28, 2023 - Harbor Park at Baldwin Park

The first annual Latin Conference was held January 21, 2023, at the Renaissance Marriot Hotel at SeaWorld in Orlando. The event was attended by 125 residents of Florida and Puerto Rico. After the welcome and introductions, the day kicked off with a round of Family Jeopardy. Following lunch, the conference broke into sessions:

Women and Bleeding Disorders – Dr. Irmel Ayala – Medical Director, Hemophilia Treatment Center, John Hopkins, Children’s Hospital;

Men and Bleeding Disorders - Lourdes Arvelo, LCSW Licensed Clinical Social Worker, Johns Hopkins All Children’s Hospital;

And the final session of the afternoon,

New Year New You –Dr. Yasmina Abajas, Clinical Assistant Professor, Pediatric Hematology/Oncology, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

Dr. Irmel Ayala, Medical Director, Hemophilia Treatment Center, John Hopkins All Children’s Hospital

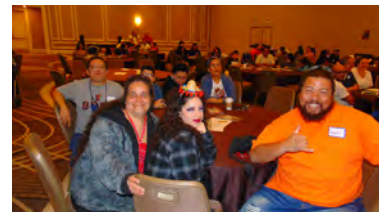
Dr. Leslie Soto, Clinical Director/Director, Puerto Rico Newborn Screening and Inherited Diseases Program, Hemophilia Treatment Center UPR

The day wound up with time to visit the booths followed by dinner, dancing, games, and a raffle.



Or-
da

All



**CHANGE THEIR WORLD. CHANGE YOURS.
THIS CHANGES EVERYTHING.**

[BECOME A VOLUNTEER](#)

OR

[DONATE](#)

Halloween was a little bit spookier and a lot more fun for the participants at the 16th Annual Orlando Creepy Crawl Walk and Run October 29, 2022 at Harbor Park in Baldwin Park. The event made its \$40,000 fundraising goal.

Awards for top individual fundraisers were Teri Frederick (1st), Tina Shannon (2nd) and Kristin Wong (3rd). First place for Teams was won by The Smith Girls; second place went to Team Tyler and third place to Team Hunter.

The event also featured a costume contest, food, music, and a special visit from the Orange County Ghostbusters of Florida.



A special thank-you to our sponsors who helped make the event possible:

Champion Sponsors

Bayer HealthCare
CSL Behring
Takeda
Sanofi
Genentech
Orlando Health
Novo Nordisk
Bpl
City National Bank

Sprint Sponsors

Cigna
SpecialtyCareRx

Stride Sponsor

Hema Biologics

Stroll Sponsor

Medexus Pharma

In Kind Sponsors

Decibel DJ
Orange County Ghostbusters of Florida
Keylife Fitness and Training
Cottrill's Pharmacy
Nothing Bundt Cakes



JOIN US FOR A 5K
APRIL 15, 2023 **AND FUN WALK**

Santa Fe College, 3000 NW 83rd Street, Gainesville, FL 32606
(The event will take place on campus at 39th Ave North West Field)

Registration 8:00 am
Event 9:00 am

<https://www.hemophiliaflorida.org/walks-5ks/>

800-293-6527

This event benefits the bleeding disorders community

The 12th Annual Gator Clot Trot is coming up April 15, 2023

Santa Fe College 3000 NW *3rd St Gainesville, FL 32606

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER

Food, Music, and Fun

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
2023 Gainesville Gator Clot Trot

What can I do?

- Volunteer the day of event
- Set up & Break down
- Registration
- Spreading the word about the HFGF to your friends
- SHARE THIS POST ON YOUR SOCIAL MEDIA!

Community Service Hours will be offered



Email info@hemophiliaflorida.org
or call (800) 293-6527