# The Volunteer Vixens



Ordinary Women... Extraordinary Impact

#### It was a BUSY Spring & Summer!

## The Volunteer Vixens' ...

Total volunteer hours: **545** 

Total dollars we have helped supported causes to raise: **\$2100** 

Total cell phones collected in cell phone drive: 75

Total school supplies collected for local school drive: 100 +

Total pints of blood donated: 30

Total causes supported thus far: 15



# How the Volunteer Vixens Came to Be

On an Orlando December night in 2010, two cousins sat together and discussed the passing year. . It had been an emotional year with highs and lows. Births (Katy's 2<sup>nd</sup> son born in January) and deaths (the passing of "our PawPaw" Minus J. Leleaux in August from Pancreatic Cancer) These two cousins, raised like sisters, talked about their passion for volunteering and how awesome it would be to help plant that seed in other women. Christina told Katy about her idea of starting a "giving circle" with their friends. Phone calls were made, emails and text messages were sent out and the first meeting was set. Six women met at Ember Downtown and over vino and dinner, they talked about the causes closest to their heart. With light hearts, they discussed potential names and one woman casually suggested the "Volunteer Vixens!" And so it began, the name stuck...the women headed home excited to start their journey into a new world where they would be paid not in monetary values, but in ways they never imagined.

# The Vixen's First "Debut"

In January, the Vixens took part in their first project with the **Downtown Homeless Ministry** and helped to feed the homeless in downtown Orlando. They provided food, blankets and clothing from they own closets and pantries and helped to distribute them to the hundreds of people that walked through the line that night.



If you are interested in participating in the next Downtown Homeless Ministry, please visit http://www.nort hlandchurch.net/ calendar

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#### Feels Like Walkin' On Sunshine

One of the easiest and most rewarding volunteering activities that you can do is a 5Kcharity walk! You're outside, you're getting exercise and you are helping to bring awareness to a very important cause. The Volunteer Vixens love to participate in 5Ks...especially when we can dress up and have fun!



In February, the Vixens walked in the Miles for Hope 5K that helped to raise money for brain cancer research.



In March, the ladies (pictured with 106.7's Johnny Magic and Brian Grimes) participated in the **MS Walk** around Lake Eola.



In May, the Vixens (along with friends and "fur-babies") walked in the 2011 Vision Walk held at Cypress Grove Park.

vol·un·teer[vol-uhn-teer]

-noun

*1- a person who voluntarily offers himself or herself for a service or undertaking. 2- a person who performs a service willingly and without pay.* 



# Who Said Volunteering is Boring?

When looking for events to participate in, the Volunteer Vixens not only look for things that will bring smiles to other people's faces, but also to the faces of the volunteers. They want to make philanthropy fun!! From helping to serve chocolate, to bowling a couple games...it's about doing good for others...and enjoying it!!



Volunteering at the Orlando Science Center's Festival of Chocolate. YUM!



The Vixens participating in the **Pancreatic Cancer PurpleBowl 2011!** 



The food prep team!

# Food to Feed the Soul

In April, the Vixens were a part of **Discovery Church's Holden Heights Revitalization Project**. They prepared and served enough food for over 30 workers and homeowners. See what YOU can do, visit <u>www.discoverychurch.org/holdenheights</u>



The dessert spread... YUM!



The serving team!

In June, the Vixens signed up to provide dinner to the residents of **The Ronald McDonald House of Central Florida.** With a Caribbean theme, it was a HUGE hit with the families and the Vixens had a great time too! Visit <u>http://www.rmhorlando.com/</u> to see how YOU can help the families!



The Vixens...and a couple of our favorite guys!

#### Do You Have the Drive?

Another way to give back is to GIVE and The Vixens have been a part of many "drives" where they have collected items to be donated to various businesses and charities, a few being The Orlando Union Rescue Mission, 911 Cell Phone Bank, Casselberry Elementary School, and Florida Blood Centers. It's amazing what The Vixens can accomplish when they all work together!



Holy School Supplies!



Making H.O.P.E Bags for the O.U.R.M



Donating Blood



#### Girls Just Want to Have Fun

The Vixens also plan some fabulous Girl's Night Outs...where they can connect with each other and just have a great time. Wine Nights, Qigong Sessions, Jewelry Making Parties... The Vixens know how to have FUN!

# Family Fun Night

One of the MOST enjoyable events the Vixens were a part of this past Spring was our Family Fun Night at The Orlando Union Rescue Mission. It was a carnival game night for all the families at the Orlando Union Rescue Mission. Everyone enjoyed the night! All of our Vixen volunteers walked away from the event with their hearts lifted high! The O.U.R.M is always looking for volunteers or donations, visit <u>www.ourm.org</u> to see how YOU can help!



# Ella Fights Back

In August, the Vixens were asked to be a part of an amazing event to help raise money for a sweet 8-month-old little girl named Ella Renee who is battling a rare childhood cancer. And what an event it was!! It was awesome to watch hundreds of people come together, many of them with no relation to Ella of her family to help them raise money to pay for her treatments. The Vixens were honored to be a part of this event! To find out more information, and how you can help Ella, visit <u>www.ellafigtsback.com</u>.



Team Vixen honored to be part of Team Ella for the day!

Ella & her parents!



#### THANK YOU...

Thank you to the following businesses, organizations and individuals that have made generous donations to the Volunteer Vixens this past Spring/Summer!

Mrs. Jenifer Rupert Mr. Jeff Farr Hershey's Ice Cream WonderWorks Orlando Old Town Brokers Cinema Media Chilly Spoons Bahama Breeze

## More to Come...

The Vixens have been busy this fall and our winter promises to be just a fulfilling! Be sure to check out the following upcoming events in 2011:

Lion's Club Eyeglass/Sunglass Drive (month of November) Pancreatic Cancer Action Network PurpleStride Orlando 2011 5K (November 13<sup>th</sup>) "Adopt A Family" through Christian HELP (month of December)

We are currently planning our 2012 calendar...so be on the look out for more exciting and fun ways to volunteer with The Volunteer Vixens!



# This Is Just The Beginning...

The Volunteer Vixens have the rest of 2011 to WOW you with their charitable giving, their donations and their loving hearts. You can see more photos from past events and check out the 2012 calendar of events at their Facebook page:

http://www.facebook.com/ordinarywomen.extraordinaryimpact

Follow The Vixens on Twitter *@*volunteervixens Email The Vixens at volunteervixensfl@gmail.com