

LIFE prides itself on helping those in need and for being the champion for those who cannot speak but who enrich our lives and everyday make us a little more... human.

October 19, 2021

Common Good Edition



Dear Friends:

In addressing why America would go to the Moon before the end of the decade, President John F. Kennedy said in 1962, "We do these things not because they are easy but because they are hard, because the goal will serve to organize and measure the best of our energies and skills..."

I've been reflecting recently on these words as we prepare for our 28th Annual Lady in Red Gala on January 9 at The Breakers, Palm Beach. For it is these same sentiments of creative vision and determination that I believe has guided us on our journey to make a difference and transform the lives of the vulnerable and voiceless who have benefitted from the Gala proceeds, as well as the myriad of other initiatives our support has impacted.

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Of course, most recently our efforts have put nutritious food on the table for many thousands of children here in own backyard who were going hungry every night during the pandemic due to the inaccessibility of the free and reduced-price breakfasts and lunches they were receiving at school. By partnering with the Palm Beach County Food Bank to create the Lois' Food4Kids program, these children are now regularly receiving backpacks filled with meals, and more on weekends, holidays, and during the summer.

Lois' Food4Kids will once again be a beneficiary of the Lady in Red Gala proceeds this year, as will the Pups4Patriots program at American Humane. As you will recall, this unique endeavor takes dogs primarily from shelters and provides them with months of special professional training to become certified therapy dogs. Then they are given free of charge to military veterans suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and other Traumatic Brain Injuries.

Thanks to our LIFE supporters, dozens of dogs have been trained and paired with these disabled veterans, offering much-needed therapy, companionship, and unconditional love, proving once again that heroes are at both ends of the leash.

Beyond these endeavors, the generosity of our donors has led to the creation and advancement of historic ventures. To highlight just a few:

- American Veterans Disabled for Life Memorial in Washington, DC, the Nation's first and only permanent public tribute to the now four million-plus living disabled American veterans and those who have died from all conflicts and branches of service
- A summer camp experience for more than 100,000 South Florida children from disadvantaged and underserved communities
- The Lois Pope Life Center at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, the permanent home of the Miami Project to Cure Paralysis/ Buoniconti Fund – the world leader in research, treatment and services for people with spinal cord injuries
- A clean water system for a hurricane-ravaged village in Guatemala
- Scholarships for students from communities of color to attend medical school and who desire to go back to their communities upon graduation to serve as primary care physicians
- A new Center for Retinal and Macular Degeneration Research at Bascom Palmer's Palm Beach Gardens, Florida campus
- Support for African women who were victims of genocide

- The Lois Pope Pet Clinic, the first veterinary center in the tri-county region to offer low- income families free or greatly reduced medical care for their pets. This includes spaying and neutering, shots, check-ups, medicine, x-rays and other tests. They can even get free pet food if necessary

We didn't do any of these things because they were easy. We did them, as President Kennedy said, because they were hard. More importantly, they were necessary and brought the best of our energies, spirit, skills, and humanitarianism to benefit the common good and society at large.

For this, you should all feel a deep sense of pride and accomplishment. And it is for this, that I cannot thank you enough for your support, compassion, passion and commitment.

I look forward to seeing and expressing my gratitude to all in person at the Lady in Red on January 9 at The Breakers, Palm Beach. It promises to be a spectacular evening, with headline entertainment from Dionne Warwick, Marilyn McCoo and Billy Davis, Jr., and Rita Rudner. If you haven't purchased a table or tickets yet, or are interested in becoming a sponsor, please call the LIFE office: 561.582.8083.

With all my very best,

Lois

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To learn more or to donate,
visit www.life-edu.org or call 561-582-8083.



Because of your generosity, we can continue to bring
help, hope, and healing
to those who need it most in LIFE.