



Sophisticated **WOMAN**

Guide to Northshore's Nonprofits





Kids Wanna Help® Building the Next Generation of Philanthropists

KIDS WANNA HELP® provides opportunities for kids to raise money for charity through fun activities that build self-confidence and encourage a lifetime of community responsibility. What sets this nonprofit apart from others is that the fundraising activities are actually run by kids.

This kid-powered organization is the brainchild of Mary-Brent, age 14, and Beverly Brown, age 12. Mary-Brent and Beverly knew kids had the ideas and the motivation to do their part to help out but they did not have an avenue to make it happen. These girls decided to change that. They started Kids Wanna Help®, which offers children in our community a way to make a difference through activities they enjoy, and their parents support. Kids Wanna Help® is creating a burgeoning generation of philanthropists.

The Kids Wanna Help® Lemonade Brigade™ kicks off with a Young Business Owner Workshop that teaches kids how to start their own businesses and run them successfully. Business leaders give presentations on topics like marketing, fiscal responsibility, successful interviewing and effective communication skills. Although these topics could be heavy for kids in 3rd-8th grade, the workshop is designed to make these topics interesting and fun. At the workshop, nonprofits also make presentations to the members of the Lemonade Brigade™ to explain what they do

and who they help. These presentations give the kids an opportunity to ask questions and make informed decisions about who should benefit from the money they raise.

Kids Wanna Help® provides the members of the Lemonade Brigade™ with all the supplies they need for a successful lemonade stand. At an end of the summer awards ceremony, the money raised by the Lemonade Brigade™ is distributed to the charities. Kids Wanna Help® recognizes the most successful teams as well as the individuals who exhibited strong leadership and team building skills.

The Kids Wanna Help® annual fall fundraiser benefits pediatric leukemia. It is an all-day pre-fashion show workshop for girls in 3rd-8th grades, followed by the fashion show itself. With the theme, "To be Beautiful You Have to be Yourself," this activity empowers girls with a positive and giving attitude, one that will serve them well when faced with the inevitable choices raised by peer pressure.

In less than three years, through Kids Wanna Help®, kids in our community have raised and donated well over \$50,000 to various charities. This well run organization has received several awards, including 2008 "Charitable Organization of the Year" presented by Mrs. Supriya Jindal. Kids Wanna Help® has proved to be one of the most promising new charitable organizations on the Northshore. ❀

Beneficiaries of the Lemonade Brigade:

- Parenting Center of St. Tammany Hospital
- Special Olympics LA
- Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation
- Covington Food Bank
- J.L. Foundation
- American Cancer Society
- Mary Bird Perkins
- STARC
- Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
- Pelican Bark Park
- Mary Payton's Miracle Foundation
- Children's Advocacy Center
- Habitat for Humanity

For more information:
www.KidsWannaHelp.com
985-875-0407

