

Why we started...about our logo... what we do

On the sixth floor, in Boston a child sleeps, isolated by glass. Controlled to be pure, controlled for a life full of health. Hope filled eyes wanting to go home awoken to an oversized bag filled to the top with unwrapped presents. He looks at his mom and says, "These are too many for me. Can I give some to the kids in here?"

The child was a 5 year old boy named Andrew Swenson, who was in the Bone Marrow Transplant Unit in Boston. His dream in life was always to make others happy.

Because of Andrew's desire to always help others, his uncle, John Sousa, started the foundation in Andrew's honor and named it "Andrew's Helpful Hands Foundation".

Our logo is Andrew's handprint. This came about during transplant when he had GVHD (Graft vs. Host Disease). The GVHD had caused an extreme itch and burn over his whole body. Making "hand made High 5" postcards was a distraction that kept him from itching and peeling his skin.

What we do is allow parent(s) to focus on their child as they go through the Bone Marrow Transplant process.

If a donor is needed, we help organize a Bone Marrow Drive. If needed, we provide financial assistance with mortgage/rent, utilities etc... whatever is needed to keep families in their homes. If you just need a helping hand, where are there for that too... because whatever you need during this period, we are here to be helpful!

Andrew's Helpful Hands Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non profit charitable organization, that continues in memory of an incredible little boy and helps families stay in Their homes!

*Leukemia Ride/Family Walk and BBQ '05
June 5, 2005*

Our event starts off in the morning at 8:30am for "staging" for all the motorcycles. The ride leaves at 10:00am sharp. All staging is at Robinson's Ace Hardware located at One Nicholas St., Framingham, MA . The owners have been wonderful in allowing us to use their parking lot. Once they leave Framingham, motorcyclists will be escorted by police through several towns, making a special "drive-by" St. Michaels Cemetery in Hudson, where Andrew lays at rest. The ride continues for approximately 85 miles of beautiful country back roads and scenic routes. The ride finishes approximately 12:00 at the Leominster Eagles on Litchfield St., Leominster, MA

Simultaneously there will be registration and "warm up" at 8:30am for our Family Walk. All walkers will start their roundabouts at 10:00am for a 3 mile walk around the track that is located at the Leominster Eagles on Litchfield St., Leominster. (The track will be marked on the soccer fields below). The walk finishes approximately 12:00 then we all hike up the hill to welcome all the motorcyclists as they arrive.

Then it is time to start the BBQ with all you can eat hamburger, hot dogs, BBQ chicken, salad, desserts etc... Entertainment will include several bands that will be playing throughout the day for continuous music. Many events for the kids, such as Magic Show and balloon animals sponsored by Jugglin John, an exotic animal show sponsored by Animal Adventures, face painting, temporary tattoos, bounce houses, slides, bubble pools, crafts, and games. Raffles, door prizes, and we have an OCC Chopper on display with raffle tickets available to win the chopper while helping out two great organizations, Andrew's Helpful Hands and St. Mary's Elementary School in Clinton, MA !

Also at 12:00, HLA of NH will start testing anyone over the age of 18 yrs old and under 63 yrs old who would like to be placed on the National Bone Marrow Registry. Placing yourself on the NBMR is an incredible gift to a family who is looking for a match to save their loved ones. It is so simple, fill out the application, one finger stick, fill 4 little circles and whala, you may be the next HERO in a persons life!

Registration Form

For Individuals and Team Members.

Individuals complete and return. Team Captain must complete back side of this form and return it attached with all the individual forms for each member.

First Name: _____
Last Name: _____
Street Address: _____

City _____ State: _____

Zip: _____ Phone#: _____

Age on 6/5/5 _____ T-shirt size: _____
(S,M,L,XL,2XL,3XL)

Registration Fee: \$20 per person
Kids under 12 Free

Checks payable to: Andrew's Helpful Hands
Mail registration forms and check to :
Andrew's Helpful Hands
P.O.Box 751
Hudson MA 01749

WAIVER

In consideration of acceptance of this entry, I waive all claims against Andrew's Helpful Hands, sponsors of the event and all officials for any injury or illness which may result from my participation in the Family Walk and BBQ event. My claims remain waived even though liability may arise. I further state that I am in proper physical condition to participate in this event. I hereby grant Andrew's Helpful Hands permission to use pictures/videos including me for publicity and /or promotional purposes without obligation or liability to me and without restrictions. Children under 12 years old must be accompanied by an adult. This entry cannot be processed unless signed by each entrant or if under 18 years of age, by parent or guardian.

Individual's signature date

Parent/Guardian signature (if under 18 yrs old) date

