



Connect with Us!



## Upcoming Events

**May 2:** [Central Pennsylvania Congenital Heart Walk](#)

Hershey, PA  
Even though the walk is over you can still make donations!

**May 2:** [Rio Grande Valley Congenital Heart Walk](#)

Harlingen, TX  
Even though the walk is over you can still make donations!

**May 9:** [Sacramento Congenital Heart Walk](#)

Sacramento, CA  
at Southside Park

**May 15 - 17:** [Carson Kaye Memorial Ice Hockey Tournament](#)

Bethlehem, PA

## Hands for Hearts Raises \$100,000 for CHF

Hands for Hearts' Casino Night event, their premier fundraising event, took place on February 28th and raised \$100,000 for The Children's Heart Foundation! [Hands for Hearts](#) is an organization that was established in 2014 to honor Matt Sullivan. They partnered with CHF to help fund the most promising CHD research; all proceeds received by Hands for Hearts will go directly to CHF.

Here is the story behind the organization:

"Matt Sullivan is the inspiration behind Hands for Hearts. Matt tragically lost his life in January 2014. There was no greater friend, brother, son, or uncle on the planet. Matt lived for his friends and family and would stop at nothing to help a loved one. When learning that his precious nephew, Nick, was diagnosed with a severe CHD, Matt made it his mission to drive to Charleston almost every weekend to spend time with Nick and support his sister, Nicole, and her husband, John. It's his love for Nick that led to the creation of Hands for Hearts. We knew Matt would love to see children like Nick love a normal and healthy life. Nobody had a bigger heart than Matt. It's only fitting that through Matt's legacy we will strive to make positive impacts on the hearts of thousands of children.

Hands for Hearts was created to generate positive changes for the children and families affected by congenital heart defects, by raising funds and awareness in our community. Born out of the sorrow of losing our dear friend, Matt, we wanted to honor his memory by supporting a cause that was near and dear to his heart; children with congenital heart defects. There is no Hands for Hearts without

The 2nd Annual Memorial Tournament & Fundraiser will take place May 15th - 17th at the Steel Ice Center. This tournament is in honor of Carson "Mighty" Kaye who passed away at the age of 4 months due to multiple rare heart defects. Proceeds from this event will benefit CHF.

**May 16: [Nashville Congenital Heart Walk](#)**

Nashville, TN  
Join us at the first-ever CHW in Nashville! The walk takes place at Edwin Warner Park.

**May 16: [Indianapolis Congenital Heart Walk](#)**

Indianapolis, IN  
at Butler University - Atherton Union

**May 17: [Long Island Congenital Heart Walk](#)**

Long Island, NY  
at Sunken Meadow State Park - East Orchard Pavillion



[The Children's Heart Foundation \(CHF\)](#) is the nation's leading organization solely committed to funding Congenital Heart Defect (CHD) research.

Matt Sullivan. We hope that the funds we raise will go towards the most promising research to increase the survival rate of infants born with CHDs, the creation of less invasive surgeries, and to improve the overall quality of life in children with CHDs as they live through adulthood. It's our hope that we can make a perpetual impact in the lives of children for years to come. We know Matt would love this organization, as no one had a larger heart."



## Message from Colby Groom

"Hi, my name is Colby Groom. I live in Healdsburg, California and currently am a junior in high school. I was born with a CHD, a Bicuspid Aortic valve. When I was 9 and 10, I had to have 2 Open Heart Surgeries. The first one was for a natural repair, and when that failed my valve had to be replaced with a Saint Jude's Medical Valve.



CHF's mission is to fund the most promising research to advance the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of CHDs. Our goal is to bring health, hope, and happiness to children and families impacted by CHDs.

**Donate Now!**

Overall, I missed about a year of school and when I went back to school, I was behind in every way. Soon, my parents saw how hard life was becoming for me, and they got me interested in giving back to the community that saved my life; the heart community. At the age of 10, I was on stage giving speeches. My father is a well known winemaker, winning more than a few Winemaker of the Year awards. When I was 11, I asked him if we could make a wine together. Eventually, he found out that the plan in my head was to give back to the community he inspired me to care about. We originally planned to raise around \$1,000 by selling it to friends, but when Walgreens heard about it, they took it nationwide. Soon lots of restaurants and stores took it on as well. Today, the wine [Colby Red](#) has raised more the \$600,000 for heart research. However, we always want to continue growing, and we rely on everyone to buy the wine or ask his or her favorite restaurant or retailer to support it.

Recently I was appointed as a National Spokesperson for The Children's Heart Foundation. I am extremely proud to have this honor and I hope I can make a big difference. The day where there are no CHDs is a long way off, but the journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step, and each dollar I can raise will save someone's life in the future. This year I am donating \$20,000 to The Children's Heart Foundation. One day I hope that Colby Red will hit \$1 million in donations so I can give back even more. You can [view more of my story](#) in this video."



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