



*A Hike, a gift of Music, or a Gift
...An Opportunity
to help a Teen or Child in Care*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 22, 2009

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Hike-a-thon to Benefit Teens and Children in Foster Care

Manchester, NH ***Three area non-profits unite to raise funds and awareness to benefit teens and children affected by foster care and adoption. "Peak Performance", a hike-a-thon, will be held on Sunday, August 16, 2009 up the "4,000 footer" Cannon Mountain.

"Peak Performance" was a dream made real for Katherine Prudhomme-O'Brien of Derry, whom had been in foster care as a teen in her youth. Katherine states "I saw that a local women's group (The Greater Manchester Federated Republican Women) was already raising funds and awareness for teens and children affected by foster care and adoption in the Manchester area, so I asked them if they'd be interested in my idea. They lined up several people willing to do the hike, then started working out the details." Katherine further explains, "When, I heard Ernie Boch Jr. talking on the radio about his non-profit called Music Drives Us, I knew I wanted them to be involved, too. When I was placed in foster care I was not allowed to bring my saxophone. I am excited to now be in a position where I can advocate for these teens and children who deserve access to what all kids deserve, fulfilling their dreams."

A non-partisan community service project for the Greater Manchester Federated Republican Women (GMFRW), proceeds from Peak Performance will go directly to benefit teens and children in care through existing programs for the Manchester Area Foster and Adoptive Parent Association (MAFAAPA) and through MusicDrivesUs.org (MDU). All proceeds will be used towards a music education mission, and donors will be able to choose whether their tax-deductible pledges will be used for music education or Christmas presents for children in care.

The individual who raises the most money for the hike will receive the Grand Prize: two tickets to the December 2009 Boston Music Awards donated by MusicDrivesUs.org. Incentive prizes will be available to other hike participants.

Several individuals already committed to the hike include:

- NH Senator and former U.S. Congressman, **Jeb Bradley** (Wolfeboro)
- Former Assistant General Manager of the Boston Red Sox and former President of NESN, **John Claiborne** (Manchester)
- Retired Executive Director of NH Housing and Finance Authority, **Claira Monier** (Goffstown)
- Local band **Onedown** bass player, Sheldon Schwartz (Boston)
- Event co-founder and mother of two, **Katherine Prudhomme-O'Brien** (Derry)
- R&D Engineering Tech and Founding member of the Friends of Massabesic Bicycling Association, **Alan Cail** (Manchester)
- Miss Kingston Teen, **Bjarna O'Brien** (Derry)
- And several other individuals

Organizations and individuals already involved include: The Greater Manchester Federated Republican Women, the Manchester Area Foster and Adoptive Parent Association, MusicDrivesUs.org, Aggregate Consulting, B-fresh Consulting, Daddy's Junky Music Store, Greene Lombardi Law Group PLLC, PVBM Ukrainian Catholic Church, Ambassador Joseph and Augusta Petrone, Representative Will Infantine, Murphy's Taproom, East Derry Londonderry School of Music, and Rockingham Acres Garden Center.

For more information, or to obtain registration forms, go to HYPERLINK <http://www.MusicDrivesUs.org/hike-a-thon>, Facebook link "Peak Performance Hike-A-Thon, or email peakperformance2009@gmail.com.