

Holiday Gifts that Give Something Back!

If you're searching for the perfect last minute holiday gift, give our online holiday store a try! Starlight Starbright has teamed up with a number of generous retailers to offer an assortment of unique holiday items to consumers interested in purchasing a gift that will keep on giving to benefit the children we serve. Sponsor a cuddly teddy bear, give delectable chocolates, impress a business associate with a seasonal bouquet, or surprise a loved one with custom apparel. A percentage of each purchase will be donated to Starlight Starbright, enabling us to do more in the new year to lift the spirits of families with very sick children.



To purchase, visit www.starlight.org/holiday.

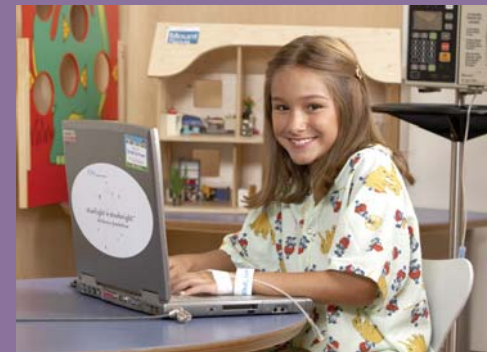
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starlight starbright connect

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PC PALS An escape from reality



It's impossible for most of us to imagine how it feels to be a child diagnosed with a chronic or life-threatening medical condition — lying in bed for hours wondering what's going to happen next ... missing friends ... worrying about parents who always seem to be fighting back tears ... feeling like the only one who's ever gone through this ... longing for the way life used to be. Fear, loneliness, isolation, depression: These are words that too often come to define a seriously ill child's life.

Perhaps at no time are these feelings as strong as during the holiday season. While other children are lending their dads a hand as they put up holiday decorations, helping their moms prepare special treats or simply enjoying a break from school, hospitalized children continue to face tests and treatments.

Starlight Starbright Children's Foundation is dedicated to improving the quality of life for seriously ill children and their families — during the holidays and all year long.

That's why Starlight Starbright created PC Pal — a laptop computer system designed to meet the needs of hospitalized children. PC Pals transform loneliness into community and boredom into activity by allowing kids to connect with friends and family, entertain themselves and keep up with schoolwork.

Wired for Internet connectivity, PC Pals offer email and chat programs that enable children to stay in constant contact with friends and loved ones. One such program is Starbright World, Starlight Starbright's private, moderated and secure online community that provides seriously ill teens and their siblings with a support network and a critically important sense of belonging.

Health professionals and child life specialists agree that PC Pals make a real difference. Research shows that computer access can play a vital role in reducing the isolation, hopelessness and dejection that hospitalized children often feel.

"One of our young patients was in the hospital awaiting brain surgery. In the time leading up to the surgery, he used the PC Pal nearly every day. When he came out of surgery, his very first request was for 'my computer' [the PC Pal]," recounts a child life specialist from a Manhattan hospital. "The PC Pal made such a difference for this boy. The PC Pal offered him hours and days of escape from the painful and frightening realities of his medical condition."

Starlight Starbright is working every day with generous donors and sponsors to place PC Pal units in hospitals throughout the United States and Canada, and we need your help. Together we can provide a dynamic diversion for young patients that lifts their spirits, distracts them from pain, and lessens the monotony and loneliness that accompany long hospital stays.

Your gift of \$25 will help place
PC Pals in hospitals across the country.

Each PC Pal will serve approximately 1,800 children over a year's time.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Mardi Gras Celebration
February 9, 2007
Denver Athletic Club

The Ultimate Gift
Movie Premiere
February 22, 2007
Continental Theatre

Art Auction Fundraiser
March 8, 2007
1022 Humboldt Street

Mile High Hunt
June 23, 2007
Downtown Denver

Golf Tournament Fundraiser
September 2007
Course TBD

For ticket or sponsorship
information for these events,
contact Cathy Choy at
cathy@starlight-colorado.org
or 303-691-0700.

MILE HIGH HUNTERS TAKE OVER DENVER

In September Starlight Starbright of Colorado debuted its Mile High Hunt, which is destined to become an annual favorite among fun-loving and active Denverites!

The first annual Mile High Hunt scavenger hunt and fundraiser started and ended at The Children's Museum of Denver, while clues led teams to various landmarks and establishments throughout Lower Downtown (LoDo), Denver's birthplace and busiest district.



Nearly 200 people and 40 adventurous teams competed in the event. Participants were rewarded for their sleuthing skills with an after-hunt bash featuring free food, live jazz, and beer from Breckenridge Brewery, the event's beverage sponsor. They also received "I Survived the Mile High Hunt" cards, granting them specials at various LoDo establishments that evening.

More than half of the teams raced against the clock wearing creative and wacky costumes, vying for the prize for "Best Team Theme." Starlight Starbright mascot Starry caught the eyes of curious passersby, while greeting teams with his pal RapidMan (of the Colorado Rapids soccer team) at McCormick's Fish House & Bar, the mandatory mid-Hunt bevi-break for participants.



The event raised \$20,000 which will go directly to support Starlight Starbright programs and services! Generous sponsors covered all event costs, which combined with countless hours and energy poured into the Hunt by Starlight Starbright volunteers and the great attitudes of the event's enthusiastic participants, made the Hunt a huge success!

TWO TIMES THE FUN!

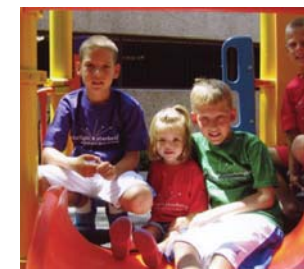
Each month, Starlight Starbright hosts Great Escapes family events to ensure that, between hospital visits, families have the opportunity to create lasting, happy memories. Coordinated and funded entirely by Starlight Starbright staff, donors and volunteers, families are able to simply show up and enjoy the event together.

In July, families gathered at Denver Health Medical Center for a day-long Fun and Games Great Escape. Decked out in Starlight Starbright t-shirts, families enjoyed a delicious chicken sandwich lunch from Chick-Fil-A. The children hula-hooped to cheery tunes, expressed themselves with side-walk chalk and face paint, and created priceless pieces of foam art — all to their heart's delight! Most memorable were mascot pals Starry, RapidMan of the Colorado Rapids and Crusher of the Orange Crush, whose wackiness was a hit with the kids and adults.

In October, Starlight Starbright treated families to a night of adventure at the Putting Edge, a glow-in-the-dark mini golf course. Equipped with glow-in-the-dark bandanas made by Starlight Starbright staff, families putted and scored around bright and colorful obstacles. To "top" it all off, Sundae Island helped the hungry golfers build their own sundaes. With a seemingly endless variety of toppings to choose from, children enjoyed their very own tasty and colorful ice cream creations.

"Thank you so much for including us in your Great Escapes," said one Starlight Starbright mother. "You are always so good to our family, and over the years you have brought us many happy memories we would never have been able to have without your fine organization. Your work has given so many people bright days where there is a great need for sunshine!"

Special thanks to all who make memorable events like this possible!



Director's Corner

Kimberly Bourne Schultz
Executive Director
Starlight Starbright
Colorado



Dear Starlight Starbright Friends,

As we gather with family and friends this season, it is a time to celebrate everything for which we are grateful, including good health. For the children and families served by Starlight Starbright, good health is something they never take for granted. Rather than celebrating the holidays near a toasty fireplace at home, they may find themselves in a hospital room, facing questions about a scary, unknown future. With your help, Starlight Starbright can provide a respite from the stress these families endure — during the holidays and all year long.

This year, we're particularly excited about the difference that our PC Pals will make for pediatric patients during the holiday season. For those children who are missing a family gathering, an email from Grandma can ease the hurt. If a holiday movie marathon would help pass the time, PC Pal serves as a laptop theater. And, if a child longs for holidays spent at home conquering a favorite video game, PC Pal makes a host of games accessible.

We're also pleased to offer families Great Escapes — our signature program that gives families a chance to relax and reconnect outside the hospital and meet other families in similar situations. Great Escapes, such as Denver Nuggets basketball games, skating with University of Denver hockey players or a teen New Years Eve dance, bring much-needed fun and laughter.

With your support, we hope to offer monthly Great Escapes throughout Colorado and place PC Pals in every hospital with pediatric beds.

On behalf of our Board of Directors and the children and families we serve, I thank you for helping us lift their spirits, during the holidays and year-round.

KB Schultz