



News Release

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For Immediate Release

ONTARIO FIREFIGHTERS TO ASSIST STEVEN'S HOPE FOR CHILDREN IN ST. PATRICK'S DAY FUNDRAISER

UPLAND, March 2, 2010 -- Firefighters from Ontario Local 1430 will be at the El Torito in Ontario on Wednesday, March 17 for a St. Patrick's Day event set to raise money and awareness for Steven's Hope for Children.

"We want to help kids in every way that we can," said Captain Marty Perez, who is leading the event. "This is the biggest event we do as a department, and it allows us to meet with people in the community while helping a worthwhile local charity."

Every year, the people of Firefighter Local 1430 gather to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. Captain Perez believes there is no better place to celebrate this year than at El Torito in Ontario. There will be great Irish and Mexican food, a karaoke contest, singing firefighters, and a bagpipe player. The world's largest leprechaun will make an appearance, as will Austin Powers, Elvis, and Ozzy Osbourne impersonators.

The 8th Annual St. Patrick's Day Tip the Firefighters Fundraiser will run from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. and will include a buffet breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Firefighters will be waiting on tables and selling shirts, shamrocks, and even green helmets.

"This event is too fun to miss," said Tony Cappelli, president of Steven's Hope for Children. "We are grateful for the Ontario Firefighters, and are excited to have them help us raise money and introduce people to what Steven's Hope does."

Steven's Hope for Children is an Upland based non-profit charity that's mission is to provide temporary housing and other essential needs to the families of seriously ill or injured children during the child's extended treatment and care.

Steven's Hope was established in 2002 after the founders, Tony and Sandy Cappelli, experienced firsthand the tragedy of losing a child to heart illness. Their son, Steven, had a fatal heart condition and lived for 32 hours. After Steven's death, the Cappelli's looked for a way to help other families that were going through similar situations. Through donations and the assistance of volunteers, Steven's Hope has helped hundreds of seriously ill or injured children from the Inland Empire, across the country, and around the world.

"Steven's Hope for Children is a fairly new organization that never gives up. They do great work for children and their families, and this is our way of helping them. 100 percent of the net proceeds will go to Steven's Hope," said Perez.

"Everyone is very supportive of this event, especially Hector Silva, El Torito's regional manager for the Inland Empire," said Cappelli. "We welcome anyone who wants to learn more about our charity."

Local businesses are being asked to donate goods and services to the silent auction that will take place during the event. Gift baskets, gift certificates, and other merchandise can be delivered to Steven's Hope prior to the event. Current sponsors for this year include Finn Industries, Hino Motors, LA Ontario International Airport, Coastal Pacific Foods, Ontario Convention Center, Source Interlink, Chem Labs and Ontario Police Officers Association.

Sponsorship opportunities for the event are still available. Sponsors who give \$400 or more will receive lunch or dinner reservations along with raffle tickets, event T-shirts, and green merchandise. Breakfast and lunch are each \$10 per person, and dinner is \$25 per person. Kids are half price. Walk-ins are welcome, but reservations are strongly encouraged.

For information about how to donate or get involved with Steven's Hope for Children, call 1-866-3-STEVEN.

About Steven's Hope for Children, Inc.

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For additional information, visit www.stevenshope.org.

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