



From Maddi's Closet

Bringing love, hope and joy to children battling cancer

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FROM MADDI'S CLOSET -- President Donna Holmes and Neil Holmes are pictured during the national conference on children's cancer.

From Maddi's Closet President Attends National Conference on Children's Cancer

Donna Holmes, president of From Maddi's Closet, a local charity fighting against children's cancer, met recently with physicians and other non-profit leaders attending the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation's fourth Pediatric Neuro-Oncology Basic and Translational Research Conference: Translating Discoveries to Cure the Kids in New York.

A lay person at a conference filled with highly skilled doctors, scientists and medical professionals, Holmes still felt very much at home during the two day event. After more than a decade in the battle against children's cancer, she is very familiar with the subject. She returned from the whirlwind trip filled with excitement and new information.

"This conference vividly demonstrated the importance of us all working together," says Holmes. "Without volunteers and financial support from non-profit organizations such as

From Maddi's Closet, the challenges facing medical professionals in the fight against children's cancer would be almost impossible to meet."

"We must support these doctors and other professionals in order to have any chance of and hope for a cure," adds Holmes. "From Maddi's Closet has always believed that it's very important for children battling cancer and their families to have hope for a cure. There are many advances being made in medical science, and we can be optimistic about the future."

Designed to build on the success of previous meetings, conference sessions encouraged the sharing of ideas, results, and new collaborations between medical professionals and non-profit organizations. The event offered attendees a state-of-the-art update on the field of pediatric brain tumor research.

From Maddi's Closet is very distinct from other non-profits in that it supports a variety of aspects of the fight against children's cancer, according to Holmes. While other organizations are frequently more narrowly focused, From Maddi's Closet provides support for patient support, advanced research efforts, emergency assistance for families, as well as special community outreach events.

"Representatives of other non-profits at the conference were very impressed with the broad range of activities described by From Maddi's Closet," adds Holmes. "I am so very proud of what we do to help children, where we came from, and where we are going in the future."

Holmes was also impressed listening to the doctors and research scientists who are coming together to seemingly create miracles in the battle against cancer.

"They speak with overwhelming passion as they describe their efforts to cure our children," says Holmes. "While the doctors may no longer have young children of their own, they truly care about their patients. Some shed tears as they spoke about children that had not made it through earlier treatments, and wished they were still alive today to see how far these treatments have advanced."

From Maddi's Closet encourages everyone to join in working together to achieve our goal of a world with children suffering from cancer. Further information is available by visiting frommaddiscloset.org.

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FIGHTING CHILDREN'S CANCER -- Longtime From Maddi's Closet supporters Dr. Girish Dhall and Nurse Care Manager Barbara Britt spoke at the Pediatric Brain Tumor Conference in New York.

