



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **UMBRELLA CLUB GOLF OUTING HELPS SICK CHILDREN**

A field of 144 golfers participated in the Umbrella Club's 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Outing on May 14<sup>th</sup>, helping the organization generate more than \$55,000 toward its mission of providing compassion and support for families and children in need of medical assistance. Additionally, this year's event was dedicated to the memory of the Club's founding member, John DePoli. A ceremony honoring Mr. DePoli was held following the golf and dinner at the Sterling Farms Golf Club in Stamford.

Nicolas ("Nico") Ponce is an 11 year old with Cerebral Palsy confined to a wheelchair. He lives with his parents, Saul & Marisol and his sister, Danna in Fairfield, CT. The Ponce Family were guests of the Umbrella Club at this year's golf outing. The Club donated \$10,000 to help the Family purchase a wheelchair accessible van.

The Golf Outing, the Winter Car Raffle and the Summer Beach Party-Dinner Dance are the three fundraising events held by the Club each year. These three events generate more than \$100,000 annually, all of which goes to assist families, children and organizations in need of a helping hand that cannot be found elsewhere.

Based in Stamford, the Umbrella Club has a membership that is limited to 50 men, primarily from the Greenwich-Stamford area. They come from varied backgrounds, but are united in compassion and a dedication to lend a helping hand to families and children in Fairfield County. From a rather innocent beginning when a group of friends wanted to help out a friend in need and generated a \$2,500 gift, the organization now gives between \$100,000 and \$150,000 annually to organizations, families and especially children who are in need of a special friend.

Over the last 35 years, the Umbrella Club has donated more than \$2,500,000 to families and children who would have otherwise slipped through the social services net, which for various reasons, was unable to provide assistance. Along with the children and families that have benefitted from the club's assistance, it has also provided a \$250,000 gift to the Yale Pediatric Eye Care Center, a \$300,000 capital gift to Stamford Hospital's new Pediatric Emergency Department's Umbrella Club Reception Area, as well as contributions to the Greenwich Hospital Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, Special Olympics, Western Connecticut Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Connecticut Burns Foundation, Myositis Association and the Domus House.

To learn more about the Umbrella Club, how to contribute or how to nominate a family or child in need, visit its Web site at [www.umbrellaclub.org](http://www.umbrellaclub.org)