



News Release

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Fountain Valley Regional Hospital and Joni's Angels To Host Children's Harvest Festival for Pediatric Patients

Fountain Valley, CA – October 27, 2008 – More than 300 children, who were former patients of Fountain Valley Regional Hospital, **and their families**, attended a Children's Harvest Festival on the hospital's campus last Saturday. It was the 25th year the hospital has hosted a pediatric reunion for its patients and staff and celebrations included a costume contest, musical entertainment, food, raffle prizes, face painting, bounce houses, fun and games, pony rides and a petting farm.

The event was coordinated by Joni's Angels, a non-profit volunteer organization. Joni's Angels has helped make a difference in the lives of pediatric patients and their families at Fountain Valley Regional Hospital since 2007. Their volunteers are teens who engage in interactive play, share music, read or simply sit by the bedside of a child in a hospital or rehabilitation environment for the relief of families whose lives are profoundly affected by their child's long-term illness.

"The hospital staff has graciously given their time to coordinate this event in past years," said Deborah Stowell-Buffkin, Executive Director of Joni's Angels. "But we've had such a great relationship with the hospital and its patients that, this year, we were invited to take on the responsibility – it's what we wanted to do for the families who are so special to the Hospital."

Over 100 volunteers from local area high schools, including the Edison High School Varsity Baseball team, Edison High School Key Club, the Joni's Angels Club of Fountain Valley High School, a group of the Hospital's own Junior Volunteers, and a few Girl Scout Troops from Fountain Valley and Huntington Beach service units lent very helping hands to make the day a special one for the kids. Fountain Valley Firefighters were also in attendance posing for pictures with the kids in their vintage truck and Hospital nursing staff manned the First Aid booth.

Many local companies, including Pacific Ambulance, sponsored booths with carnival-style games, activities, discounts and raffle prizes. Hospital medical staff and nurses also made donations of their own - it was a small gesture of appreciation for the many brave and bright patients who have made their job so rewarding over the years.

Ann McCarthy DeMaio, R.N.C., a clinical nurse specialist in FVRH's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit and the Cotton Candy Booth sponsor, summed it up best. "Getting to see our patients outside of the hospital setting, having such a wonderful time – we definitely wanted to be a part of that."

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About Fountain Valley Regional Hospital:

Fountain Valley Regional Hospital and Medical Center (FVRH), a 400-bed acute care hospital, is one of the most comprehensive medical facilities in Orange County. The hospital's core services include the Orange County Institutes for Heart & Vascular Care, Spine, Orthopedics, Neurosurgery and Pediatrics, with advanced neonatal and pediatric intensive care. Each center is specially designed to better serve our patients. Our continuum of care also

includes the Orange County Regional Cancer Center including a newly renovated Center for Breast Care, labor and delivery, transfusion-free medicine and surgery, 24-hour emergency care including the first accredited Chest Pain Center in Orange County, urgent track, surgical weight loss services, inpatient and outpatient surgery. FVRH is fully accredited by the Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations. To learn more about Fountain Valley Regional Hospital and Medical Center visit www.fountainvalleyhospital.com.

About Joni's Angels:

Joni's Angels is a non-profit, 501 (c) (3), volunteer organization, EIN #20-5014412, whose mission is to provide a window of time for the relief of families and children whose lives are profoundly affected by their child's long-term illness and the catastrophic changes they face in the new focus of each day in their life.