

Young & Healthy is celebrating its 20th year of caring for uninsured and under-insured children. Many of these children came from families where one or both parents work but still cannot afford insurance or adequate medical care. There is absolutely no way we could have imagined the level of poverty that we would see or the solutions that were possible. In the past two decades we have seen so much heartache, **and** so much kindness.

I now know what poverty looks like when it wears the face of a child.

- It is the child living in a garage with her family, a family who has no refrigerator to keep her insulin cold.
- It is the child who has taught himself not to cry when he has a toothache.
- It is the child who nearly became deaf because of his unrelenting and untreated ear infections.
- It is the child whose untreated emotional injuries caused her to become mute.

The current economic crisis has pushed more families into unemployment and their children into the ranks of the uninsured. However, we at Young & Healthy have had no shortage of kindness and volunteerism because Young & Healthy continues to offer very simple solutions to very complex problems.

We are a conduit by which hundreds of people in our community can do good, and it is clear that the work and compassion of Young & Healthy must continue.

We know that tomorrow the phone will ring and:

- Compassion will come in the form of a \$50 prescription.
- By mid-afternoon, a \$100 asthma inhaler will answer the call for help.
- \$500 will provide a preschooler with the dental anesthesia she needs.
- A \$1,000 donation will provide the gift of therapy for a child whose family is wracked by despair.
- And by the end of next week—a child's life will be changed by a \$5,000 surgery.

Young & Healthy will be called upon to provide everyday miracles as we continue to serve the community one child at a time. We hope you will join us in providing these miracles!

With gratitude,



Chris Foster
Board President



Mary Donnelly-Crocker
Executive Director