

LBFF Launches New Website: Going Global with the LBFF Community



LBFF is proud to announce the launch of our newly expanded website at www.littlebabyface.org. Designed to provide visitors with a dynamic, interactive experience, this new website allows for user-friendly access to pertinent information, from medical services the Foundation offers, to the backgrounds and professional expertise of our world-class surgeons, and heartwarming stories of personal lives changed through LBFF's work.

Through an enhanced visual presence visitors get a look into the journeys of our LBFF children and their parents, some of whom travel across the globe to receive medical services from LBFF volunteer physicians. This includes before and after photos, video segments of LBFF stories featured on *Dateline NBC* and *CBS Healthwatch*, and thought-provoking documentaries created by filmmakers Lisamarie Costabile, Mark Larson, and Rudy Gaskins.

Viewers can find descriptions about key surgical procedures, critical support services for families, and up-to-date medical research into the many areas of facial reconstruction. In addition, ample opportunities to join in the LBFF community through volunteering and special events are encouraged and described in detail.

A new facet of this site, visitors can now more fully interact with other LBFF community members through our social networking links including Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, MySpace, and Flickr which are featured prominently on our homepage. In addition, donors can contribute directly to the Foundation by clicking on our "Donate Now" button.

We are delighted to engage with our LBFF community in new and exciting ways thanks to the expertise of website designer Dorri Olds. But don't take our word for it! Visit us today at www.littlebabyface.org and tell us what you think. We'd love to hear from you.

BELIEVE IN MIRACLES VII Annual Fundraising Gala Celebrates the Transformation of Faces & Lives of Children



Gala 2009 Believe in Miracles VII, Honoree Dr. Deborah Pilla celebrates with LBFF patient Lorena Ochoa.

The seventh annual gala to benefit The Little Baby Face Foundation. "Believe in Miracles VII" was held on November 19, 2009 at the New York Athletic Club overlooking Central Park in New York City.

More than 300 guests joined in honoring Dr. Deborah Pilla, a dedicated member of the

Foundation's Medical Advisory Board. Dr. Pilla provides dental evaluations to every child the Foundation serves. Her work with LBFF patients was highlighted in a video, "Living a Life of Consequence" shown during the evening.

The evening also included spectacular silent and live auctions, raffle drawing for exotic trips, dancing, and a sumptuous buffet dinner. Among our special guests were our Little Baby Face patients from as far as Morocco, Greece, Ecuador and as close as Staten Island, NY.

The event raised more than \$150,000, enabling us to continue providing exceptional medical treatment at no cost to children from around the world who have been born with cleft lip/palates, missing or malformed ears and other facial deformities.

Pictured here are some highlights of the evening.



l. to r. Dr. Deborah Pilla, Dr. Thomas Romo, III, Diane Romo

GALA PHOTOS BY DAN ROOT



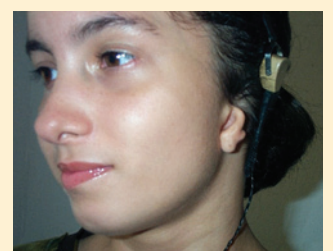
LBFF Patient Ahmed Al Mokhtar Zouhir gives many thanks.



Trish Bonamo and LBFF Board member Alan Mattone celebrate winning a great trip to Greece & Turkey in the live auction.

LBFF Receives Grant to Provide Treatment for Teen from Puerto Rico

Thanks to a very generous \$29,500 gift from the Mortimer J. Harrison Plastic Surgery Trust, 15-year-old Elizabeth Collazo from Puerto Rico, was able to have the first of four surgeries in December 2009 to correct her ear deformities. She is scheduled for her second stage surgery in April 2010. Elizabeth was born with bilateral microtia, and severe hearing loss. She was also born with Goldenhar Syndrome, a facial deformity, and will be evaluated by the LBFF Medical team to assess this condition and possible treatments.



Letter from the President

THOMAS ROMO III, M.D., F.A.C.S.



Dear Friends of Little Baby Face Foundation,

I am delighted to share this newsletter with you highlighting the exciting accomplishments of LBFF this past season.

For so many of us, 2009 was a year filled with challenges. It has also been an opportunity to pause and focus on those moments when we connected with others in profound and meaningful ways. During this past year alone, LBFF served children with facial deformities and their families in countries across the globe. From Morocco, the Philippines, and China, to right here at home in The Bronx and New Jersey, LBFF continues to provide essential medical support while instilling hope for the children and families we serve.

Consider the words of recent LBFF patient Alexis' grandmother:

Angels are all around in New York and I want to thank them all... I saw a picture of Alexis taken at Dr. Romo's office yesterday and when I spoke with my son he said Alexis was holding back tears of joy. I spoke with her after that and she had a "spark" in her voice I have never heard before. Thank you, Thank you, Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

As my colleagues, my family members, and I approach the New Year, we are reflecting on the blessings we have, as well as the lives we are fortunate enough to transform by putting our knowledge and efforts to work.

Truly, in the words of Winston Churchill: *We make a living by what we get, we make a life by what we give.*

It is within this spirit that I ask you to join our LBFF community of outstanding women and men who provide medical and professional expertise to children throughout the world at no cost to their families, and who contribute greatly-needed financial resources to foster the Foundation's mission.

There are so many ways in which you can contribute to LBFF. Please consider volunteering your time on a committee, organizing a special event, or donating greatly needed funding to foster our efforts world-wide. Know that we wholeheartedly welcome your participation in our work.

On behalf of the entire LBFF community, I wish you and your family a Happy New Year.

With best wishes,

Thomas Romo III, M.D., F.A.C.S.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT AND FOUNDER

Thomas Romo III, M.D., F.A.C.S.

VICE PRESIDENT

Lauralouise Duffy Blatt

SECRETARY

Barbara Klippert, Esq.

TREASURER

Lawrence May

MEMBERS

Patricia Ardigo

Alan J. Mattone

Donald Moriarty

HONORARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

David O. Volpi, M.D.

MEDICAL ADVISORY BOARD

Richard Elias, D.M.D., M.D.

John Ho, M.D.

Len Horovitz, M.D.

Darius Kohan, M.D.

Louise Levy, M.S., CCC-A

Joseph C. Licata, M.D.

Boaz Lissauer, M.D.

William Louie, M.D.

Sheldon Opperman, M.D.

Joseph D. Osipow, D.D.S.

Steven J. Pearlman, M.D., F.A.C.S.

Deborah Pilla, D.D.S.

Thomas Romo III, M.D., F.A.C.S., *Chairman*

M. Zakir Sabry, M.D.

David Slavitt, M.D.

Fredrick A. Valauri, M.D.

Joseph Wolf, M.D.

The mission of the Little Baby Face Foundation (LBFF) is to transform the lives and faces of children born with facial deformities through corrective surgery. LBFF provides travel to and from New York City and covers all related costs so that these children can undergo needed corrective surgical procedures.

135 East 74th Street
New York, NY 10021

Tel 212.333.5233
fax 212.265.7525

info@littlebabyface.org
www.littlebabyface.org

Copyright 2010. All rights reserved.

2ND ANNUAL GOLF OUTING • AUGUST 2009



The Second Annual LBFF Golf Outing was held on Tuesday August 4, 2009 at the historic Wykagyl Country Club in New Rochelle, New York. Eighty golfers enjoyed friendly competition on a very challenging course and in the Hole in One and Putting Contests. Following a great day on the links, LBFF Medical Advisory Board members, Drs. William Louie and Richard Elias who co-chaired the event, hosted the golfers and their guests at the clubhouse for cocktails, a sumptuous buffet dinner and raffle drawings. Thanks to all the players, and many volunteers, who contributed to make this another successful event we can transform the lives of so many children around the world!

DID YOU KNOW:

Facts about HEMIFACIAL MICROSOMIA



What is Hemifacial Microsomia?

Hemifacial microsomia (HFM) is a condition that affects bone, muscle, fat and nerves of the face. The deformities in HFM are on a spectrum from a mild

presentation with slight asymmetry to severe with absence of facial structures. This condition is progressive and becomes more apparent as the individual grows.

How often does Hemifacial Microsomia occur?

HFM is the second most common facial deformity. It occurs in approximately 1 in every 5600 births.

The cause is unknown and there is no sex predilection.

Facial Growth

Asymmetric growth is an early manifestation in HFM. This presentation is accentuated by the deficiencies in mandibular (lower jaw) growth, lack of soft tissue bulk and weakness of the muscles in the face. The unaffected

side grows normally in all dimensions while the affected side does not. The chin deviates toward the affected side. The short jaw restricts normal downward growth of the maxilla (upper jaw) and produces a cant of the bite.

Classification in Hemifacial Microsomia

HFM's most common classification system is the O.M.E.N.S. classification first described by Vento and colleagues. OMENS stands for orbit (eye), mandible (lower jaw), ear, nerve and soft tissue (skin, fat and

muscle). These structures are each rated from a normal state designated 0 to severe 3. Accurate classification of HFM is imperative to formulate a comprehensive treatment plan.

Treatment in Hemifacial Microsomia

Patient age and skeletal type determines the treatment course. Early treatment, patients in deciduous dentition (baby teeth), is confined to the severe deformities. Mixed dentition treatment approximately age 6-12 is multidisciplinary involving mandibular correction to allow for normal maxillary growth followed

by orthodontic treatment (braces) to align the teeth. End stage correction (after growth is complete) usually older than 16, involves surgery on both the mandible and maxilla. Ear reconstruction or revision can be carried out throughout the treatment algorithm depending on treatment plan.

SPOTLIGHT:

LBFF Medical Advisory Board Member
Richard L. Elias, D.M.D., M.D.

Dr. Richard Elias has been a dedicated member of the Little Baby Face Foundation Medical Advisory Board since its inception. As a specialist in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, he provides necessary treatment to LBFF patients with HFM. He earned his medical and dental degrees from Harvard Medical School and Harvard School of Dental Medicine and completed his residency at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston. Dr. Elias is affiliated with Lenox Hill Hospital, Mount Sinai Hospital, New York Presbyterian and Manhattan Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital in New York City. Additionally he holds academic positions at Mount Sinai Hospital/Medical School and New York Presbyterian Hospital.



Dr. Elias pictured during the 2009 Gala with LBFF patients, Lorena Ochoa from Ecuador and Nikoletta Mallias from Greece.

Featured Children: You Can Help!



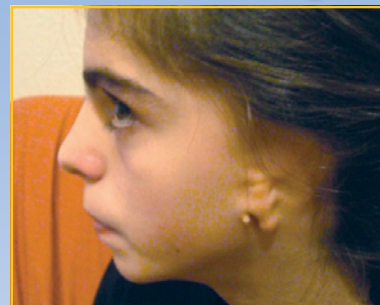
AMRU

Seventeen-year-old Amru lives in Amman, Jordan. He will require two procedures to correct his microtia. While in NYC, he will also be evaluated by the LBFF medical team to assess his other medical concerns, including dental abnormalities.



LANDON

Landon is seven-years-old and lives in Springtown, TX. He will require two separate procedures to correct his microtia. His first surgery will take place in January 2010.



LABENTINA

Twelve-year-old Labentina lives in Kosovo. She was born with microtia and a mandible deformity. She is awaiting a visa and is expected to come to NYC in the coming months for her first microtia surgery. While in NYC, our medical team will evaluate her jaw condition and consider treatment options.



MELANIE

Nine-year-old Melanie was born with a lazy eye, microtia, atresia and hemifacial microsomia. Her treatment requires four separate procedures during three trips to NYC to create an external ear, to fit her with a bone-anchored hearing aid and for facial surgeries for her lazy eye and missing mandible. She has already undergone jaw reconstruction using rib graft which now allows her to open her jaw and eat normally. Her next surgery will start her ear reconstruction.

Your generosity will provide transportation, housing, food, hospital, and anesthesia fees for these and other children waiting for your help!



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

135 East 74th Street, New York, NY 10021

Transforming the Lives and Faces of Children
LITTLE BABY FACE
 FOUNDATION

PRSRRT STD
 US POSTAGE
 PAID
 LIC, NY
 PERMIT 168