



Yellow Door
FOUNDATION

This Month at Yellow Door

February is Heart Month

First Year Darden Students Select Yellow Door for Project

Yellow Door Pays it Forward Touching Lives in Bolivia & El Salvador

Evening with the Key Holder's Circle Recognizes Impact Donors and Volunteers

**Welcome to our "Chaos Coordinator"
Melinda Sites**

A Heartfelt Thank You to Sarah and Stephanie as they Step Down from the Board

YOUR Impact!



10,655 nights of free lodging!



For 115 pediatric patients



Along with 391 family members!



Families travel an average of 123 miles



Stay an average of 90 days





**Provided \$1,811,350*
in lodging savings for families**

*(average cost of hotel in Charlottesville is \$170/night
according to www.budgetyourtrip.com)

Donate to make an Impact

February is Heart Month



**Celebrating Heart Month
with Atlas's Inspiring Journey**

February is Heart Month, a time to raise awareness about cardiovascular health and celebrate the incredible strength of those affected by heart disease. National Wear Red Day is this Friday, February 7—join us by wearing red to support the fight against cardiovascular disease and honor the brave children and families navigating heart health challenges.



Atlas Receives his Donor Heart!

This Heart Month, we have exciting news to share: **Atlas received his life-saving heart on December 31!** After spending over 9 months in UVA Health Children's hospital on the waitlist, Atlas finally received his gift of life just in time for the new year.

Atlas's family has been staying at Fox Hollow during this challenging time. Early in his journey, Atlas faced complications that made a heart transplant seem out of reach. Thanks to the expertise and dedication of his medical team, those issues were resolved, paving the way for his successful transplant. **Atlas is now on the road to recovery, and once he's strong enough, he will rejoin his family at Fox Hollow** to continue healing before finally heading home.

Since opening our doors, Yellow Door has hosted 33 heart transplant families and 17 families whose children required heart surgery. Every family has a story of resilience, hope, and gratitude for their heart donor.

This February, as we wear red and reflect on the importance of heart health, we send our heartfelt wishes to Atlas and all the children and families who inspire us every day. **We look forward to the day Atlas's family can finally be together under the same roof**, celebrating a new chapter filled with hope and healing.

First Year Darden Students Choose YDF for Project



Darden First-Year Students

Support Yellow Door Foundation

We are thrilled to share that a group of first-year students from the Darden School of Business has selected Yellow Door Foundation for a project this spring semester. **These students will be researching and identifying grant opportunities to support our mission.**

Their commitment didn't stop there—they went above and beyond by preparing and delivering delicious spaghetti dinners to our families. Their thoughtful gesture brought warmth and comfort, embodying the spirit of Yellow Door.

We are honored they chose us for this impactful project and believe their efforts will be instrumental in advancing our mission. We look forward to seeing the positive outcomes of their hard work.



Esli, who just turned nine last week, enjoyed her spaghetti dinner.

Esli is being treated for Ewing Sarcoma and staying with her family at the Baer Hart House during her treatment.

Yellow Door Sends Joy Abroad



Spreading Chloe's Kindness Around the World

In honor of Chloe, who spent a year with Yellow Door Foundation during her courageous battle with cancer, we are proud to share how **her legacy of kindness is reaching children beyond our community.**

After Chloe's passing this past summer, her parents wanted to pay forward the compassion and support she received. Their wish has touched the lives of many children facing their own struggles.

Thanks to one of our dedicated volunteers, **a shipment of stuffed toys was sent to King's Palace, a children's ministry in El Salvador.** Each child received a bag of stuffed toys lovingly sent in Chloe's memory, bringing smiles and comfort to those in need.

Another shipment of toys made its way to Bolivia, where they were received by an organization similar to Yellow Door that provides accommodations for families while their children undergo medical treatment. Their stuffed toys were well-loved—some missing eyes and held together by tape—so the gift of Chloe's, some still tagged with the names she gave her stuffies, delighted the children there.



These toys, filled with warmth and love, continue Chloe's beautiful spirit of giving, and we are honored to help share her kindness with the world.



**An Evening with the Key
Holders Circle**



A Memorable Evening with the Key Holders Circle

We recently hosted our 2nd Annual Evening with the Key Holders Circle Appreciation Event at the beautiful Septenary Winery, thanks to the gracious hospitality of Sarah and Todd Zimmerman. **It was a wonderful evening dedicated to celebrating the incredible accomplishments of 2024 alongside our impact donors and dedicated team of volunteers.**

A sincere thank you to Sandy and Danny from Flavor Catering for providing a delightful spread for the second consecutive year. Thank you also to **Dr. Mike Engel, head of pediatric hematology and oncology at UVA Health Children's, who shared what Yellow Door's support means to the cancer program.**

We are so fortunate to have such an inviting space to show our appreciation for the support of our impact donors, volunteers, and community partners. **Their dedication helps us continue making a lasting impact.**

Welcome to Melinda Sites: Our

New Program Assistant *aka Chaos Coordinator*



Welcoming Melinda Sites to Yellow Door Foundation

We are thrilled to extend **a warm welcome to Melinda Sites, our new Program Assistant!** Mel is no stranger to Stone Creek Village and Yellow Door Foundation, having worked at SCV for 20 years before retiring from Denstock 7 months ago. In fact, she played an instrumental role in YDF's decision to make Stone Creek Village our home.

In her new part-time role, **Mel will assist with various programs,** including our Meal Ministry, and support our families by checking in to ensure they have everything they need to focus on their child's health. **Affectionately known as our "Chaos Coordinator,"** Mel's addition to our team helps us continue providing the high-quality support for which Yellow Door is known.

Welcome, Mel! We're so grateful to have you back as part of the Yellow Door family.

Thank You to Sarah and Stephanie

We extend our **gratitude to Sarah and Stephanie as they conclude their time on the Executive Board** after two years of dedicated service. Their unwavering commitment and passion have made an impact on the Yellow Door Foundation and the families we serve.

Through their leadership, guidance, and support, they have helped strengthen our mission and contributed to the growth and success of our programs. Their efforts have touched countless lives, and they **will always be a cherished part of the Yellow Door family.**

**COME VISIT US:
See Your Impact First-Hand**



Living Room at the Valley House

If you would like to visit a Yellow Door Apartment to see the impact of your support first-hand

or to volunteer your time and talents:

Please contact JoAnne: 434-953-9123

Donate

Follow us for more updates



Our mailing address is:
Yellow Door Foundation
435 Merchant Walk Square, #300
Charlottesville, VA 22902

Contact Us:
joanne@yellowdoorfdn.org
434-953-9123

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