

GOODLETTSVILLE FAMILY HONORED BY DISNEY PARKS FOR DEDICATION TO VOLUNTEERISM

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – The Young family was recognized for its commitment to improving the Middle Tennessee community during a celebration of family volunteerism Feb. 11 at Walt Disney World Resort.

Disney Parks, which is inspiring families to get involved with community volunteer projects through the Give A Day, Get A Disney Day program with HandsOn Network, brought together more than 100 families like the Youngs from all 50 states, Puerto Rico and Canada at Epcot to celebrate their volunteer commitment and to embed the value of service in future generations.

Chuck, Emily, Shelby and Cameron Young have been volunteering at the Ronald McDonald House, a residential facility for families with seriously ill children who are receiving treatment at Nashville hospitals. Emily serves as a project leader for Hands On Nashville's service program that provides homemade dinners for the house's residents at least twice a month.

About her volunteer experience, Emily said, "I love this project because I can take my children. They can see firsthand how blessed we are, and that we need to be thankful for those blessings. To see and play with some of the children afflicted with childhood diseases has really given both of my children an appreciation for their health and

blessings. I also love that the families we serve are always so very appreciative to have a home-cooked meal."

"Hands On Nashville was pleased to nominate the Youngs as an outstanding volunteer family who represent Tennessee well," said Malinda Hersh, Hands On Nashville's director of nonprofit and volunteer programs. "Not only does the family make a difference at the Ronald McDonald House, but members volunteer together at the Goodlettsville Help Center and Thrift Store. They make an impact throughout Middle Tennessee."

"The tradition of volunteering as a family is an increasing trend as parents see the benefits of service on their children. It teaches the values of kindness, compassion, tolerance, responsibility and good citizenship, and it strengthens communication within the whole family. Service has also been linked to improved school engagement and decreased antisocial behavior and alcohol/tobacco use, as well as reduced rates of teen pregnancy, class failure and school suspensions," said Kathy Saulitis, VP of Youth and Family Engagement for HandsOn Network.

The Give A Day, Get A Disney Day program celebrates the spirit and power of families that volunteer together. One million volunteers who offer their time and resources to tackle tough community problems this year can get a

one-day ticket to a Disney theme park for free.

About Hands On Nashville

Hands On Nashville is Middle Tennessee's volunteer resource agency. Hands On Nashville creates and manages opportunities for adults, families, teens, children and companies to transform their world through volunteer service. Hands On Nashville challenges everyone to find a way to give back and to ... Be the Change. Volunteer. To find out how, check out www.hon.org or call 298-1108.

About HandsOn Network

HandsOn Network, the volunteer-focused arm of Points of Light Institute, is the largest volunteer network in the nation and includes more than 250 HandsOn Action Centers that reach more than 83 percent of the nation's population and extend to 10 countries. HandsOn includes a powerful network of more than 70,000 corporate, faith and nonprofit organizations that are answering the call to serve and creating scaled impact. In 2008, the network delivered approximately 30 million hours of volunteer service valued at \$615 million. For more information, visit www.hands-onnetwork.org. To learn more about family volunteering, visit www.HandsOnNetwork.org/FamilyVolunteering.