



# Helping Other People, H.O.P.

JUNE 2011 NEWSLETTER  
A KIDS & FAMILY PROGRAM FOR H.O.W.

*News: Recipients will be randomly selected from nominations offered by attendees at the previous month's H.O.P. breakfast.*

\*A glass bowl for a \$10 cash gift will be at the event and given to the monthly recipient at the end of each breakfast.

## Fresno Chapter H.O.P. Breakfast.

**When: Saturday, June 18<sup>th</sup> at 9am!**

**Where: BELLA PASTA**

**Please call Bella Pasta to make reservations!**

(559) 325-5525 ~ 7033 N. Cedar Ave, Fresno

In honor of

**EMMA MILLER\***

## BREAKFAST MENU:

Adult breakfast is \$10, includes pancakes, scrambled eggs, hash browns, fruit and self serve, coffee, milk, and orange juice bar. Kids meal is \$5, includes silver dollar pancakes, sausage, fruit and self serve milk and orange juice.

WEBSITE:

[www.helpingonewoman.com](http://www.helpingonewoman.com)

facebook:

“Helping One Woman Fresno Chapter”

## EMMA'S STORY...

Emma was born in June of 2008 with a broken heart, a congenital heart defect(s). While she was still in the hospital, after her birth, the on-call pediatrician came by to do his initial rounds on all the new babies. He did the once over on Emma and all was well, but when he listened to her heart he told us that her little heart had something wrong with it. And so her heart journey began.

Emma had her first EKG a few hours after it was discovered that her heart had something wrong with it. At Emma's one week appointment with her pediatrician he listened closely to her heart and said, "Her heart is not fine and she needs to get up to Children's Hospital ASAP". We were scheduled to be seen a week later with a cardiologist. She was monitored closely and in September of 2008 (at two months of age) she had her first heart surgery to help correct her pulmonary valve. Unfortunately, the procedure was unsuccessful in helping her heart and when she was seven months old, in February of 2009; she had her first open heart surgery (OHS). After a seven hour surgery which includes being put on a heart-lung bypass machine, she spent four days in the PICU at Children's Hospital Central California. She recovered fast and amazed the doctors and nurses with her rapid recovery. They were able to patch a hole in her heart, help her valve a bit more and remove some congenital tissue inside of her heart that had been restricting the blood flow within her heart.

She continued to be monitored by her cardiologist regularly and in early 2011 her heart was showing signs of needing intervention again. In February 2011 Emma had her second OHS at CHCC. This one lasted 9.5 hours and she suffered some complications from her surgery that extended her stay in the PICU and lengthened her recovery. In the middle of May she was FINALLY cleared by her cardiologist from the complications of her surgery. It was a long road to recovery, but she amazed us all with her continual smiles and her non-stop happy heart. She is currently being seen every 3-4 weeks by her cardiologist, but hopefully soon she will have longer breaks between her appointments.

Emma will be three in a few days and she is doing well. You would never know that she is a heart kid. She loves being outside, playing at the beach, playing in the mud with her brother, swimming, all animals and the color pink. Emma will continue to have checkups with her cardiologist her whole life. We are unsure what the future holds for Emma and her heart, she may be up against further open heart surgeries, but for now we take one appointment at a time. She knows her heart has an "owie" and that the doctors work to heal her heart and to make her feel better. She is our courageous little trooper! Her whole life she has known nothing different than having a broken heart and yet she does whatever needs to be done without complaint. She is our heart baby and we are so proud of her!

*H.O.W. Motto:*

*One woman with \$10.00 can buy another woman lunch.  
Ten women with \$10.00 can buy another woman's groceries. One hundred women with \$10.00 can make a real difference in another woman's life.*

*For more H.O.P. information, Contact:*

*Meegan Grant*

*559-240-1809*

*[hopfresno@yahoo.com](mailto:hopfresno@yahoo.com)*