

OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER FUNDRAISER AWARD

Greg & Tiffany Michalec



Greg and Tiffany Michalec say they are just parents, not fundraisers, but Akron Children's Hospital has a special meaning to their family.

Greg and Tiffany's twins Katie and Cory were born at 26 weeks on February 3, 2004; Katie weighed only 1lb. 12oz. and Cory was 2lb. 2oz. They both experienced complications at birth and were immediately taken to Akron Children's Hospital, where they received life-saving care. During the next 18 weeks in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, Greg and Tiffany witnessed the care and understandings from doctors, nurses, and staff.

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The Hospital became a "home away from home" for Greg and Tiffany, and they knew they had to give back to this wonderful institution somehow, some way. *An Evening of Wine and Wishes* was born in April of 2005. This event treats guests to an evening of more than 150 selected fines wines from around the world, with gourmet food provided by Giant Eagle and an assortment of craft beers.

After the overwhelming success of this first event, Tiffany and Greg set a goal of raising \$1 million in 10 years; a goal that was achieved in only eight.

Greg and Tiffany's work extends beyond Wine and Wishes. Tiffany is a member of the Parent Mentor program at Akron Children's Hospital, where she provides guidance, hope and support for parents of children in the NICU. Greg lent his business expertise as a director on the Akron Children's Hospital Foundation Board. Both are also involved in the children's schools and other activities.

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Akron Children's Hospital