

Forum for Nonprofit radio show
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April 4, 2023

Drowning Prevention of PBC

Anna Stewart, Manager
Drowning Prevention Coalition of Palm Beach County
405 Pike Road
West Palm Beach, FL 33411 :
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ABOUT:

The Drowning Prevention Coalition was established in 1996 to reduce drowning, near-drowning and other water-related incidents by educating the public on water safety and basic rescue techniques.

The DPC is a primary resource for all Palm Beach County residents' and visitors' water safety needs. We offer information about [local pools](#), [layers of protection](#), [swim instruction](#) and life guarded areas.

The DPC is committed to extending the reach of our water safety educational initiatives through services provided to our residents. These services include, but are not limited to: education, providing free swimming lessons to qualified families and guiding groups and special needs programs to area swimming lessons.

April 11, 2023

Chariots on Ice

Valerie D. Mathieu- Founder/President

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Lake Worth, FL 33454

www.chariotsonice.org

chariotsonice@gmail.com

ABOUT:

Chariots On Ice is a unique nonprofit organization, especially in sunny South Florida! We offer free sled hockey clinics for all ages to try the adaptive sport of sled hockey. Sled hockey is a Paralympic sport debuting in the 1994 Olympics. It is played by persons with disabilities, in a seated position, with two hockey sticks on an ice hockey rink. Sled hockey follows all the same rules as regular ice hockey and the same protective gear is worn except no hockey pants for sled hockey, and the skate blades are underneath the sled seat.

Our dedication to the special needs community is based in our primary nonprofit organization, Chariots Of Love that provides free mobility equipment to handicapped children in our communities. As an ice hockey player herself, Valerie Mathieu Chariots founded Chariots On Ice in 2019 with a \$5k grant from the Florida Panthers Foundation to start the sled hockey initiative. It took another year to raise sufficient donations to pay for the necessary sleds, protective gear, and the rink rental to hold the clinics.

We just completed our 10th free clinic (a 2-year hiatus during Covid for participant/volunteer safety) to an enthusiastic response in the special needs community. We are requesting donations for our inaugural free "Military Veterans" clinic on May 6th for these deserving disabled service personnel.

There are a very limited amount of sporting opportunities for persons with disabilities and Chariots On Ice feel that "Hockey Is For EVERYONE" After learning of a program to help disabled children in Europe in 2011, Valerie Mathieu founded her nonprofit organization to do the same thing in the USA. Chariots Of Love provides free pediatric wheelchairs, funds repairs or accessories, and other mobility equipment for children with disabilities in our communities. Funded by public tax-deductible donations and small grants, Chariots Of Love has been able to provide over 224 "Gifts Of Mobility" so far ranging from \$400 to over \$31,000. These pieces of equipment can be life changing for a child in need and their families. The equipment may allow them to attend school, gain independence, improve posture and strength, increase circulation and aid digestion in a

safe item fitted for their unique condition by the professional mobility staff at Reliable Medical, formerly TD Medical of Hollywood.

April 18, 2023

Chariots of Love

Valerie D. Mathieu

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ABOUT:

Chariots Of Love serves families that are uninsured, under-insured or otherwise unable to receive medically-necessary mobility equipment for their children. Insurance typically covers one item every 4-5 years leaving a massive financial burden to the family to get the mobility items their children need. By getting the public involved in financial donations, they are able to alleviate some of the stress and expenses facing these challenged families.