

## **Kidd's Kids Depart Thursday on Disney Dream Vacation** ***Kraddick hosting 52 special children and their families for five-day trip of a lifetime***

DALLAS (November 5, 2012) – More than 50 terminally/chronically ill and physically challenged children and their families are heading to Walt Disney World this Thursday for the 21<sup>st</sup> annual Kidd's Kids trip. Hosted by nationally syndicated radio and television personality Kidd Kraddick, this all-expenses-paid "trip of a lifetime" was made possible by the generosity of several corporate partners and loyal fans of the *Kidd Kraddick in the Morning* radio program.

"I can't wait to meet all of these beautiful boys and girls and see their faces light up when they board that Southwest Airlines jet," said Kraddick, host of the most-listened-to contemporary morning program in America. "Then, when they first set foot in Disney World, well, it just moves your soul. There's nothing I could ever compare to the satisfaction we all get from offering this experience to those wonderful kids and their families."

On Wednesday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, more than \$533,000 was raised from *Kidd Kraddick in the Morning* show listeners during the annual Kidd's Kids Day fundraising campaign, to help pay for this year's trip. In addition, several corporate partners have stepped in to provide additional funding and/or defray costs for the dream vacation, a program of the Kraddick Foundation.

During the Kidd's Kids trip – scheduled for November 8-12 – the 52 selected children and their families will enjoy all the excitement that a Walt Disney World/Kidd's Kids getaway can offer. For many families with terminally/chronically ill or physically challenged children, this is a rare opportunity to escape hospitals and treatment centers and share laughter and fun in a magical environment.

The excitement begins Thursday morning as participating families arrive at the Southwest Airlines hanger at Dallas Love Field. They'll be greeted by the Dallas Cowboys Cheerleaders prior to boarding their charter flight for a noon departure, along with the supporting medical staff and the *Kidd Kraddick in the Morning* crew. Kidd's Kids families from other areas of the country will converge in Orlando on Thursday afternoon, and the entire group will then proceed to the Disney Swan Hotel.

That evening, everyone will attend a special welcome dinner featuring Kraddick, special Disney entertainment and a surprise gift presentation by Raising Cane's founder and CEO Todd Graves. Throughout the weekend, the Kidd's Kids will be treated to private meals with their favorite Disney characters and escorted to a series of shows at the various Disney parks.

Corporate partners of the 2012 Kidd's Kids trip are Southwest Airlines, Raising Cane's Chicken Fingers, Consolidated Restaurants (Cantina Laredo, El Chico, Ill Forks), Eye Pieces – Plano, Walt Disney World Broadcast and Events Groups, The Swan and Dolphin Hotels, Hawk Electronics, the Transportation Security Administration, Orlando Magic, Dallas Cowboy Cheerleaders, Fun Factory Events, Ultimate Cupcake, Diamond Business Solutions, Atlas Van Lines, Mears Transportation/Hello Florida and Advanced AeroMedical. Kidd Kraddick's affiliate markets and stations across the country likewise pitched in to support the program.

Children selected for the trip are between the ages of 5 and 12, suffer from a chronic or terminal illness, are physically challenged and/or have a catastrophic impairment due to an injury or accident. A panel of doctors and nurses studies every application and has the unenviable task of choosing each year's Kidd's Kids. The panel makes certain that the children won't have their health affected by a five-day trip with other families and a park full of strangers. The children must reside in the *Kidd Kraddick in the Morning* radio listening area, be able to appreciate the trip, and demonstrate a financial need.

*Kidd Kraddick in the Morning* is a syndicated morning radio show that can be heard on more than 75 stations across the country, and on American Forces Radio, from 6:00 AM to 10 AM CST. Kraddick and his team are also featured on the nationally syndicated television entertainment program *Dish Nation*. For more information visit [www.YeaNetworks.com](http://www.YeaNetworks.com).

For more information on Kidd's Kids, visit [www.KiddsKids.com](http://www.KiddsKids.com), or follow the charity on Facebook ([www.Facebook.com/KiddsKids](http://www.Facebook.com/KiddsKids)) and Twitter ([www.Twitter.com/KiddsKids](http://www.Twitter.com/KiddsKids)).

#### **ABOUT THE KRADDICK FOUNDATION®**

The Kraddick Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization founded in 1991 by award-winning morning show personality Kidd Kraddick. The Foundation and its programs were created to make a difference in the lives of children with special medical needs. The Kraddick Foundation is certified by the state of Texas and registered with the appropriate state departments of each syndicated affiliate market. The Foundation's two main programs are Kidd's Kids and the Glamour Squad. To learn more, visit [www.KraddickFoundation.com](http://www.KraddickFoundation.com).

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