



CHIERA FAMILY FOUNDATION HELPS KIDS BATTLING CANCER LEARN TO SKATE N.I.C.K.'s Ice Skating Offered at Panther's Ice Den

Coconut Creek, FL -- On March 2nd, [The Chiera Family Foundation](#) launched a six-week learn-to-skate program for children at the Florida Panthers IceDen in Coral Springs, FL. Called N.I.C.K.'s Ice Skating, the program is another way this South Florida foundation is touching kids who are fighting a battle with cancer.

N.I.C.K.'s Ice Skating is for kids currently undergoing cancer treatments and gives them and their siblings a chance to have fun learning how to ice skate. This new learn-to-skate program was made possible in part through a grant received from [The Florida Panthers Foundation](#).

"The Florida Panthers Foundation is proud to partner with The Chiera Family Foundation and award them with a Community Champions grant to help in their efforts to provide opportunities for children battling cancer," said Lauren Simone, Executive Director of the Florida Panthers Foundation.

Local figure skating phenom and former Team USA figure skater Franchesca Chiera will be teaching the skating lessons for N.I.C.K.'s Ice Skating. Franchesca began her skating in a learn-to-skate program through the Florida Panthers. A five-time U.S. National competitor who qualified for two Olympic trials, she is now training and teaching at the same rink where she learned to skate. "Helping kids forget about their cancer and letting them have fun on the ice is a life changing experience," said Franchesca. "I am truly honored to be able to help these kids and also pay tribute to my grandfather."

Celebrating its 26th year, The Chiera Family Foundation began as a tribute to the family's father, Nicholas Chiera, who passed away from cancer almost 30 years ago. N.I.C.K.'s, which stands for Nothing is Impossible for Cancer Kids, provides college scholarships for young adults who have beaten cancer, and helps send

kids battling cancer to summer camp. Through The First Tee of Broward, the Foundation is also teaching kids life lessons and how to golf.

Today, there are kids who first attended summer camp, then received a N.I.C.K.'s Scholarship. Some of those children are now doctors and social workers who are helping kids with the same cancer they once had.

This year, the Foundation's signature fundraising event will be taking place on May 5th at the Polo Club. The dinner auction will be followed by their annual golf tournament the next day at The Old Course at Broken Sound, home of this year's Tour Champions Oasis Championship. For more information on how to help kids and young adults who are battling cancer, visit www.chierafamilyfoundation.org or call 954-480-8809, ext. 20 or 21.

About the Florida Panthers Foundation Community Champions Grant Program

The Community Champions Grant Program allows charitable organizations throughout South Florida to request financial support for their programs and initiatives. Through this grant program, Panthers ownership has committed \$5 million over 5 years to the local community. At each of the 41 home games throughout the season, the Foundation will recognize and award one grant for up to \$25,000 to a local organization. To learn more or apply for a grant, please visit www.FloridaPanthers.com/GrantApplication.

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