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The Alesia Shute Foundation Hosts an Evening of Giving, Gifting and Inspiration Saturday, Feb. 20; Profits from Fundraiser to Be Donated to The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

SWEETWATER, N.J. (Jan. 19, 2010) -- Childhood cancer survivor Alesia Shute's original goal for telling her story of survival was to help children and families facing sickness, but the author of "[Everything's Okay](#)" (Escalation Publishing, August 2009) quickly realized that by partnering with doctors and hospitals and sharing her story with local organizations and support groups, she could reach thousands of families struggling to survive similar situations to her own.

[An Evening of Inspiration-Gifting Books and Inspiring Hope](#), hosted by [The Alesia Shute Foundation](#) on Saturday, Feb. 20, will raise money to gift books to different organizations, which in turn will donate them to families in need of a real life story they can relate to. Shute has walked in their shoes and offers inspiration and hope that they, too, can live normal successful lives despite battling with a catastrophic illness. Profits from all book sales benefit The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

Shute also is known locally for her fundraising efforts for the Timmy's Regatta Foundation, for which over the course of 10 years she raised more than a half a million dollars.

"I have a lot of fundraising experience so it only made sense to do something that can become a yearly event," said Shute, who has held successful book signing events and was ready to take her foundation's fundraising to the next level. "For those who attend the evening it will be completely stress-free. Dinner, dancing, cocktails, live music, and good times with friends and family will inspire us that evening. There may be a few remarks and possibly a 50/50 raffle but none of the other traditional fundraiser stresses like raffles or auctions. It's all about celebrating life and inspiring others at the same time. My hope is that it will be a fun, magical night for everyone!"

The evening first hour includes an open bar plus hot and cold hor d'oeuvres followed by a short speech and buffet dinner with dessert, coffee and tea. Dancing will be set to the music of local favorite Sonny's Fault. Dress is business casual.

The generosity and support from the local community for The Alesia Shute Foundation is already evident by the volume of businesses sponsoring the evening. All sponsors will be receiving tickets to the event as well as a number of copies of "Everything's Okay" to donate to their favorite charity. Donna and Ralph Leek have personally shown their generosity by sponsoring

the event. Other sponsors include Kindle, Lilliston Ford Mercury, Scordo's Inc., New York Life, Dr. John Templeton, Jr. MD, Cirignano Contracting, Hammonton School System Faculty and Staff, Goldenberg, Mackler Sayegh, Mintz Pfeffer, Bonchi & Gill Attorney's at Law, and Rothenberg, Hyett, Eisen, Lang, Counselors at Law. Sponsorship levels range from Hope (\$10,000) to Love (\$5,000), Kindness (\$2,000) and Compassion (\$1,000).

The Alesia Shute Foundation Evening of Inspiration will be held from 6:30 - 10:30 p.m. at Mays Landing Country Club, 1855 Cates Rd., Mays Landing. Tickets are \$65/person and may be purchased online. Sponsorship is also available.

Born in Philadelphia, Shute, now 48, was diagnosed with cancer at age seven and treated by former Surgeon General of the United States and Surgeon-in-Chief at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia Dr. C. Everett Koop. After surviving six major and several minor surgeries as a child, plus countless hours of pain and months in the hospital, Shute went on to marry her husband of 26 years, Cliff, and together they are active donators to The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. They continue to utilize their nightclubs to help raise money for their favorite cause, "Pediatric Aids Research." They also have used their businesses to hold carnivals and auctions to help families with sick children to pay the bills. Shute was the president of the Timmy's Regatta Foundation for 10 years, and she and Cliff still donate to Ronald McDonald House in Camden.

The mission of the Alesia Shute Foundation is to improve the lives of families facing childhood disease, both by making hospital stays more comfortable and by funding the research that will treat or eliminate childhood illnesses. Profits from "Everything's Okay" are donated directly to The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP).

For more details about Shute's story and the event, or to request a copy of the book for review, visit www.everythingsokaybook.com or contact Shute's Publisher Corey Blake, president of Writers of the Round Table Press and Escalation Publishing, at corey@writersoftheroundtable.com, 224.475.0392.

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