



Operation Smile Fundraiser

In Honor of Nicky Marra



H2Ocean is excited to host a fundraiser for Nicky Marra on Tuesday May 10, 7:00pm-10:00pm. Space is very limited. The nights' theme; **BUNKO at H2O!** Ticket cost is \$60 & it includes; light bites, beer, wine & cocktails. H2Ocean will be donating food, beverage & prizes for the evening. 100% of the ticket price will go to Operation Smile! The first 35 people will receive a T-Shirt & the Bunko winner will receive a prize (It's a surprise!) Please email; maryemarra@aol.com to RSVP. If you can't attend but would like to donate, please visit Nicky's Page:http://support.operationsmile.org/site/TR/Events/DonationPages?pg=fund&fr_id=1030&pxfid=39634

A Note from Nicky's mommy:

I'll never forget those words as long as I live; "Your baby has failure to thrive and we will have to insert a gastronomy tube through his abdomen to feed him." These are words that no mom should ever hear but, this is how Nicholas Marra and one of my quadruplets ate for the first year of his life, through a tube. Unfortunately, eating wasn't the only struggle he had; it also affected his speech and breathing. It wasn't until he was 6 years old that his speech therapist at his elementary school approached me and said; "I think your son has a submucosal cleft palate." Finally, we had the answer we needed to get Nicky healthy! I'm proud to say, after numerous doctor visits and surgeries to repair his palate; Nicky is thriving all on his own! He is now 16 and with a colossal appetite! More importantly, his speech is comprehensible and all of his breathing issues are resolved. Now it's time for us to pay it forward by supporting families with a priceless gift of a cleft palate surgery. Through Operation Smile we are looking to raise enough money for 10 surgeries. The average surgery cost is about \$250.00. Our goal is to raise \$2500.00 to help bring a smile of health, support and happiness to a child's life.

Kindly,
Maryellen Marra