

## CHARLIE WOOD-UHRMANN

Ms. Uhrmann was born and raised in Milwaukee Wisconsin. Her compassion and strength was realized early on, as she possessed a sense of duty to advocate for those less fortunate. Uhrmann believes her sense of advocacy is a direct extension of her mother and father's lifelong commitment of fostering upwards of 39 handicapped and abused children. She credits her modest Midwestern upbringing and gift to discern the need of others to her 30 years of success in the field of Marketing and Public Relations.

### HUMAN TREATMENT OF ANIMALS

While attending college in 1979 at the University of North Florida in Jacksonville, Ms. Uhrmann began volunteering at the Jacksonville Humane Society advocating for mistreatment of domestic animals. In August of that same year, a category 5 hurricane named David took direct aim towards Mayport Naval Station, an island off of the Jacksonville coastline, causing a mandatory evacuation. The evacuation left hundreds of animals behind. Uhrmann was one of seven team members of the hurricane search and rescue team that transported the abandoned pets to a secure facility. After college, Uhrmann relocated to a small rural town to rescue and rehabilitate injured wildlife.

### HEALTHPLUS

In 1985, Uhrmann began championing for preventative medical and dental screening for the elderly and indigent. Her efforts included seven remote areas. She solicited more than 100 healthcare professionals, including medical specialists, dentists, hospitals and laboratories from Gainesville and Jacksonville to participate in a comprehensive health screening at no charge to the public. Medical services such as skin cancer, vision, glaucoma, hearing, spinal, dental & gum screening was available, in addition to EKG, EEG, pulmonary, cholesterol and blood tests were performed at no charge. Uhrmann recruited members of Rotary International to help process more than 370 people seeking medical screening during its first year. By the second year the number of healthcare participants and attendees grew by 25% and by the third year Rotary International offered to co-sponsor the annual **HealthPlus** event. After the fifth year, Rotary International offered to adopt **HealthPlus** as one of their annual community commitment programs.

### RURAL SHARPS & CONTAMINATION WASTE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

The unintended ill-effects of combining used hypodermic needles, syringes and contaminated materials into everyday trash never crossed the minds of healthcare professionals in the rural area(s) that Uhrmann lived. That was until a small child who was scavenging for a toy at a local landfill almost lost her life from stepping on a garbage bag containing medical sharps dumped from a local dental office. After witnessing several children – many without shoes - digging through the waste, Uhrmann moved to eliminate their exposure to dangerous contaminants by developing a rural sharps & contamination program and proposing it to Waste Management, Inc. In her proposal, she agreed to recruit enough doctors, dentists, veterinarians and chiropractors practicing in the seven unincorporated areas to participate in the program; making it affordable for the healthcare professional and financially advantageous for Waste Management. Uhrmann's efforts resulted in 100% participation throughout the medical community. The Rural Sharps & Contamination Waste Management Program was underway within two months, eliminating infectious sharps and contaminants from three landfills.

## **CHILD ADVOCATE**

In 1997 Uhrmann was invited to join Florida Governor Lawton Chiles' Child Abuse Task Force; reviewing and proposing revisions to shelter intake policy and procedures. Uhrmann left that post when she relocated to Beaufort, South Carolina where she worked as an outreach field coordinator for high risk children. Since Beaufort is known for its military establishments, being located in close proximity to the U.S. Marine Corps Parris Island, the U.S. Naval Hospital and the Marine Corps Air Station, this was Uhrmann's first introduction to the daunting challenges of military life. Uhrmann worked with abused and neglected children until she relocated to Mount Olive, New Jersey where she married her husband Scott.

## **ALL VETERANS MEMORIAL**

It was not until the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 and the onset of the War on Terror – and at the same time – her township's intent to relocate a historical War Monument that shifted Uhrmann's attention towards the U.S. Armed Forces. Uhrmann's sense of patriotic duty channeled her to not only create a dignified resting area for the War Monument, but to instill a sense of patriotism by community participation in building a complex that would demonstrate unwavering support for those fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan and their family members. Uhrmann's goal to build a veterans memorial that was free of any government funding was met with the support of 39 community organizations, 49 corporate sponsors and more than 1,200 private donors.

The AVM ceremonial and educational ground touts our great nation's rich history by way of visual denotation which includes but not limited to: 1. Medal of Honor architecture, 2. Pentagon of Military Branches, 3. Presidential Preamble Stage, 4. GWOT Memorial Bridge, 5. Path to Enduring Freedom and, 6. more than 1,400 engraved memorial pavers.

## **MORRIS COUNTY CARES**

During the planning and construction stages of the AVM, Uhrmann expanded her efforts by adding a service division called Morris County Cares to her nonprofit that would fulfill personal requests from warriors fighting oversea. Morris County Cares facilitated several community outreach programs that solicited contributions to fulfill personal requests of U.S. Armed Forces members, in addition to items needed to successfully execute bridging efforts between the U.S. and Iraqi people.

Morris County Cares has fulfilled more than 2,000 personal requests, 700 blankets to Afghanistan, 1,200 lbs candy, 800 Beanie Babies, clothing & school supplies for orphan children, medical supplies for wounded warriors and Iraqi civilians and ongoing homeland support efforts.

Uhrmann is married and has two children. She enjoys spending time with her family, pets and world travel.