

Chicago Daily Law Bulletin®

Volume 159, No. 72

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Susan J. Schwartz

Practice: A partner at Corboy & Demetrio P.C. who practices plaintiff medical-malpractice litigation.

Project: Almost Home Kids, which provides transitional care — a bridge from hospital to home — for children with complicated health needs. Their families are trained to provide them with necessary care when their child comes home. When required, respite care is available. Almost Home Kids believes medically challenged, technology-dependent children should be comfortable, first in our homelike setting, then in their own home, rather than an institution.

Most of our families live at or below the poverty level. Almost Home Kids provides comprehensive care to these children with special health needs at a cost that is one-sixth of the cost per day for the same care in a hospital — saving Illinois taxpayers \$3,265 a day per child.

In November, Almost Home Kids, already operating in Naperville, expanded into Chicago when it opened a facility inside the new

Ronald McDonald House at 211 E. Grand Ave., just blocks from Lurie Children's Hospital.

The Chicago board held an event, called the Share the Care Ball, at the Drake Hotel on Nov. 30.

Why get involved: As a representative of medically fragile children, I realized that many parents of these brave children had no alternative for respite care. My search to help them led me to joining the Almost Home Kids board of directors.

What: Almost Home Kids in Naperville will host "An Evening at the Derby."

When: 6:30 p.m. April 26 at Ashton Place, 341 75th St., Willowbrook.

Who it benefits: Almost Home Kids families.

For more information: Contact executive director Deborah A. Grisko at (630) 271-9155 or info@almosthomekids.org

