

**Linwood, NJ** - On Saturday, **April 18**, Miss America 2015 Kira Kazantsev along with Miss America state titleholders from across the country will be called upon to participate in "**Miss America Serves**" - a national day of volunteer service presented by Children's Miracle Network Hospitals. This combined effort will raise funds for member hospitals while addressing the unique needs of communities across the nation.

Last September in Atlantic City, NJ, our 53 contestants led by Mary Haskell volunteered at the Atlantic City Rescue Mission, working the prep and service lines in the kitchen, meeting with mothers and children living at the Family Life Center, and assisting with the replenishment of the food pantry. This event was the inspiration to create a national effort for each state representative to show their spirit of commitment and community service in their home state.

Miss America Serves will bring together Miss America contestants and volunteers from our state organizations to create service events that address critical needs in their communities. A few of the activities confirmed thus far include volunteering at local Children's Miracle Network Hospitals; cleaning up parks, beaches and neighborhoods; assisting youth and senior organizations; visiting nursing homes; collecting clothes; stocking food pantries and feeding the homeless. These are only a few of the many activities planned on this special day to salute volunteerism and community service across the country.

Miss America 2015 Kira Kazantsev stated "The 'Miss America Serves' event will bring together contestants, families and friends to serve their communities. The Miss America Organization has a long history of service, a cornerstone of our program. This national day of service will bring much needed attention to our national platform partner, Children's Miracle Network Hospitals while raising funds for the charity and for our scholarship program."

Sam Haskell, Miss America Organization's Chairman added, "We hope to continue giving our young women the opportunity to create a legacy of service by participating in this special event to show our organization's commitment to volunteerism and inspire others to find ways to seek out service in their own communities."

As a tribute to the service local Children's Miracle Network Hospitals provide every day, state titleholders will rally their friends, families and communities to participate on April 18. Donations will have a direct impact on the area where each event is held, benefiting local kids treated at the member hospital serving that community.

Since 2007, Children's Miracle Network Hospitals has been the official national platform of the Miss America Organization. More than \$11 million has been raised for both the Miss America Scholarship Program and Children's Miracle Network Hospitals to help create awareness for 170 member hospitals that treat 10 million kids each year across the U.S. and Canada. To participate and for more information, visit www.MissAmericaServes.org

Join the **#MissAmericaServes** conversation on **Facebook.com/MissAmerica**, Twitter@**MissAmerica** and @**MissAmericaOrg**, Instagram **missamericaorg**, and**YouTube.com/MissAmericaOrg**.

## About Children's Miracle Network Hospitals

Children's Miracle Network Hospitals® raises funds and awareness for 170 member hospitals that provide 32 million treatments each year to kids across the U.S. and Canada. Donations stay local to fund critical treatments and healthcare services, pediatric medical equipment and charitable care. Since 1983, Children's Miracle Network Hospitals has raised more than \$5 billion, most of it \$1 at a time through the charity's Miracle Balloon icon. Its various fundraising partners and programs support the nonprofit's mission to save and improve the lives of as many children as possible. Find out why children's hospitals need community support, identify your member hospital and learn how you can Put Your Money Where the Miracles Are, at **CMNHospitals.org** and **facebook.com/CMNHospitals**.