



**For Immediate Release**

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**INCREASE YOUR IMPACT THIS INDEPENDENCE DAY**

*Show your patriotism and give back to those most in need.*

Chicago, IL (July 1, 2009) – For many, Independence Day weekend is filled with family picnics, fireworks and outdoor activities. Unfortunately for some seriously ill children this holiday weekend will be filled with hospitalizations, surgeries and painful treatments, leaving parents wondering how to bring joy into their child's life.

Since 1986, Starlight Children's Foundation Midwest has helped seriously ill children and their families cope with their pain, fear, and isolation through entertainment, education, and family activities. Through the generosity of its supporters, Starlight provides the simple joys that every child deserves during the summer and all year long.

Starlight Board Member, Andrew Berlin has issued a challenge grant, in which he will match all donations raised until July 31<sup>st</sup>, up to \$75,000, allowing donors to double the impact of their contributions. He issued this challenge in the hopes that his actions would inspire other members of the community to give generously.

As you spend this Independence Day weekend's festivities with your family and friends, please think of the Starlight children and their families and how your gift can make a significant impact on their lives. There is no better way to demonstrate the generosity of the American spirit than by giving back.

To participate in the Challenge Grant program and for more information on the Starlight Children's Foundation Midwest, please contact Diane Ray at (312) 251-7827 x 12 or by email at [dray@starlightmidwest.org](mailto:dray@starlightmidwest.org) or visit [www.starlight-midwest.org](http://www.starlight-midwest.org).

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For more than 20 years, the Starlight Children's Foundation Midwest has been dedicated to helping seriously ill children and their families cope with their pain, fear and isolation through entertainment, education and family activities in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and Wisconsin. Starlight's programs have been proven to distract children from their pain, help them better understand and manage their illnesses, and connect families facing similar challenges so that no one feels alone. Starlight Midwest provides ongoing support to children, parents and siblings in an array of outpatient, hospital-based and Web offerings. Starlight Midwest serves over 200,000 seriously ill children and their families each year with programs in 175 Midwest hospitals.

As Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Berlin Packaging, Andrew Berlin has brought innovative concepts, products and services to the company resulting in exponential growth. Andrew Berlin actively involves himself with several philanthropic causes and charities, and serves on several Boards. For more information about Andrew Berlin and Berlin Packaging, please contact Carole Yassen at (312) 869-7539 or by email at [cyassen@berlinpackaging.com](mailto:cyassen@berlinpackaging.com) – [www.berlinpackaging.com](http://www.berlinpackaging.com)