

New Kid on the Block (by Giovanni Scanio)

I am very happy to announce that I have been named the new Fundraising Manager of the Foot Foundation. Being involved with the Foundation my entire life instilled in me a passion for volunteering and making a difference. Now I am able to truly act upon that by managing our fundraising events. For my first event, I decided to combine my drive to change the world with my passion for bowling. The FOOT Foundation Bowling Tournament is being held October 30, 2022, and we are on track to reach my goal of 60 bowlers. As I step into this role, I strive to provide a fun and exciting environment for our supporters while also being able to help the Foot Foundation with donations in order to make change around the Tampa Bay community and abroad. I have big shoes to fill as the past events and galas have been spectacular, but I am excited to see what I can put together on my own. Thank you in advance for your continued support. I look forward to celebrating with you at many future events!

Let's Bowl for the FOOT Foundation (by Giovanni Scanio)

One of my favorite things to do is bowl, so organizing my first tournament was such a great learning experience! Thank you to everyone who came to support our Foundation. I want to extend a special thank you to our Corporate Sponsor, Westminster Pharmaceuticals, for helping us make this event possible. Thanks also to Josh with JW Film and Darin with Water Genius of Tampa for your generous donations to our tournament. I am so grateful to my friends and family who volunteered their time to help our Foundation host another successful event. Happy Bowling everyone!



Please visit our website soon for pictures and information on our upcoming events!



How We Began (by Dino Scanio)

My passion for helping others began at an early age. After becoming an American Board Certified and State Licensed Orthotist, I wanted to start a humanitarian clinic. In 2007, with the help of my family, I made this dream come true. The FOOT Foundation clinics in Guatemala City and Antigua specialize in pediatrics and have provided orthotics and prosthetics to hundreds of children. My wife, Lisa, is the Co-Founder and is responsible for selecting Florida charities seeking Foundation assistance. Lisa focuses on small local charities; they may not receive global exposure, but they perform great acts of charity in our own backyard. Our son Giovanni has taken on the role of Fundraising Manager, and is responsible for coordinating our fundraising events including securing donations, raffles and prizes.

Lisa and I are both Tampa natives and have been blessed with two sons. Our youngest son, Gianluca, was diagnosed with Progressive Mitochondrial Myopathy in 2012. Therefore, we also strive to provide ongoing education and awareness about this disease for which there is no cure.

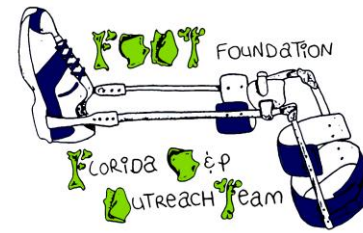
Website: www.footfoundation.org Facebook: FOOT Foundation Instagram: foot_foundation



Contact us:
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The FOOT (Florida O & P Outreach Team) Foundation is a 501(c)3 Public Charity. All donations are tax deductible.

FOOT Foundation 17633 Gunn Highway, Suite 135 Odessa, Florida 33556



The mission of The FOOT Foundation - Florida O & P Outreach Team is to provide orthotic and prosthetic services to children and adults of impoverished countries. The Foundation is also committed to giving back to local community charity organizations, and to increasing awareness for Mitochondrial Disease.

Florida O&P Outreach Team: Improving Lives One Person at a Time

A Difficult Pause in Time with Renewed Hope for the Future (by Dino Scanio)

It is with overwhelming emotion that I write to you about the operational status of Foot Foundation. It has been almost 3 years that our clinical operations abroad have been on pause. However, our efforts locally in the Tampa Bay area have never been more impactful. During a time when there was the greatest need, we stepped up. The FOOT Foundation provided immediate aid and resources to our frontline healthcare providers, first responders and our teachers. Every available resource, and countless hours of volunteer time were used. Now, we need your help!

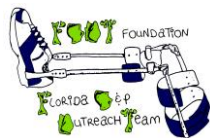
In the best interests of the children/patients of Guatemala, I was forced to make a public health decision to pause clinical operations. I have always believed that no one is left behind. We made sure our friends abroad in our clinics were provided with over 750 N95 masks so that the very important work we began over 16 years ago could continue safely. We also shipped socks and hundreds of face shields to our clinic in Antigua, where over 350 special needs children live year-round. During the time I was not traveling, I had the blessed opportunity to share my public health background with the Office of the Minister of Health and other global humanitarian organizations. I was honored to write and publish two articles that are now used to explain the mitigating measures needed to maintain operationally safe humanitarian clinics. These articles can be found on our foundation website. More importantly, I spoke virtually and in-person in the local Tampa community, sharing how important mitigating measures are for special needs families. We must not allow those who are less fortunate to ever be neglected or forgotten.

During this time, I have seen the very worst and the very best of humanity. As a frontline worker I witness, on a daily basis, the strain that COVID places upon us. To this day, we continue to save the lives of children with COVID. Humanity knows no geographic or religious boundaries. Regardless of where the need is, we will help. No one is less of a human being based on where they were born. Each life is as valuable as the next, regardless of ability. The FOOT Foundation is committed to improving lives locally and abroad. No geographic border will stop my passion for helping others. I am excited to return to clinical operations in Guatemala this November. There is no better time to show my gratitude for humanity than during Thanksgiving week. Giovanni and I, along with my clinical team, will commit to 15-hour work days to provide as much care as possible. Because of the pause in operations, there is much work to be done.

The foundation has not hosted a fundraiser in over two years. As such, our operating funds are at our lowest level in history. We have many projects planned in the near future. As we approach the holidays and gift-giving season, there will be many that will go without. But once again, the FOOT Foundation will answer the call and help those less fortunate to have a memorable holiday. I am asking that you please consider supporting the FOOT Foundation right now. It is because of our gracious supporters, like you, that we are able to continue our efforts year after year. We are excited to be hosting a Bowling Tournament Fundraiser on October 30, 2022. This will be Giovanni's first event as Fundraising Manager, and we are so proud of the role he has assumed with the Foundation. We thank all of you who have already registered to join us! As always, you can donate to the FOOT Foundation through our website. Your support is very important to us, especially this year! We hope the future is bright and that, for many years to come, we will be able to continue improving lives, one person at a time.

Sincerely,
Dino Scanio, MPH, LO, CO
Founder/Clinical Director





We are proud to announce that Giovanni was awarded the 'BE INSPIRED Rising Star Award' at the 2020 WEDU BE More Awards. Giovanni received this honor for his many efforts with the FOOT Foundation over the previous 6 years. He exemplifies the fact that you are NEVER too young to make a difference!



THREE BROTHERS
NEW YORK PIZZA

On July 4, 2020, Three Brothers Pizza in Odessa suffered a devastating fire. Three Brothers is a generous local business in the area, and supported the FOOT Foundation by providing discounted pricing for our catered events. We felt a strong desire to give back. Our Foundation sold Krispy Kreme donuts for two days and raised \$2,000. 100% of the money raised went to Three Brothers to help with immediate financial losses. They continue to be a generous member of the community.

The IamMore Foundation is a wonderful local community organization that we have helped in the past. When we found out about their current project, Adulthood 101, a program consisting of virtual webinars hosted by professional experts, we knew we wanted to help again! The curriculum was inspired by teens requesting to learn more about money management, taxes, insurance, workforce, education, social media, healthy habits, at-risk behaviors, and the transition of pediatric to adult healthcare/responsibilities. The FOOT Foundation was the official sponsor for the Adulthood 101 Webinar. It was a great success and we loved watching these young people take it all in! We hope they continue this program in the future as it truly empowers local youth, providing them with vital knowledge and life skills to help them become autonomous and successful members of our community.



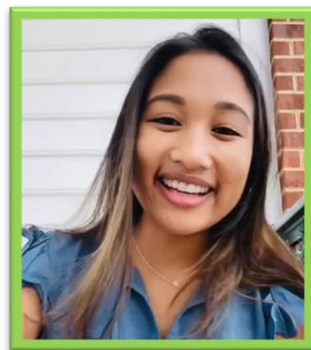
COVID-19 Heroes of Tampa Bay



Lisa was honored to be one of 19 recipients of the COVID-19 Heroes of Tampa Bay. During the most difficult months of the Pandemic, Lisa spent countless hours sewing more than a thousand masks for the local healthcare community on the frontlines. She also made 500 N95 grade masks, that could be re-used and sterilized, to ship to our clinic in Guatemala.



In 2021, the FOOT Foundation was fortunate to receive a wonderful volunteer marketing intern from USF. Andrea Celis made a BIG impact, helping us with several important deliverables. She strengthened our hope in humanity and the belief that young adults can make a big difference. We thank Andrea for her commitment to the mission of the Foundation, and we wish her continued success in her educational endeavors.

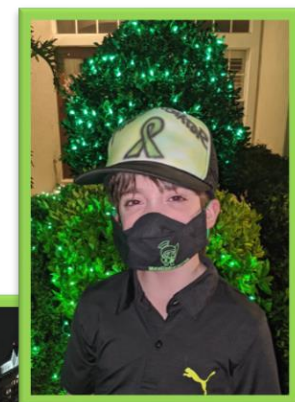


FOOT Foundation lights up Tampa Bay (by Lisa Scanio)

MitoGladiator.com



On September 13, 2020, the city of Tampa joined the rest of the world during Light up for Mito Day! Along with 173 monuments like the Parthenon and Niagara Falls, the Old City Hall, Riverwalk, Curtis Hixon Fountain, and Laurel Street, Brorein Street and Cass Street Bridges were decked out in Mito Awareness GREEN! We are so grateful to Councilman Guido Maniscalco, who spearheaded this event, and to the City of Tampa. We hope to make this an annual event, adding more locations each year!



An overwhelming number of you also took the time to light up your homes! We were so emotional each time we received a picture highlighted by a beautiful green glow. You undoubtedly helped us raise Awareness at levels we could not have imagined. It is our goal to make an even greater impact in 2023 and beyond. Please visit mitogladiator.com for more pictures and information.

Mito Awareness Week - 2022 (by Gianluca & Lisa Scanio)



This year's Mito Awareness Week was such a special one! We were able to provide an Awareness Lunch to the staff and teachers at Gianluca's school. They were so supportive, ordering Mito books for the library and asked Gianluca's classmates to wear green for a day. His teacher asked if he'd like to talk to the class about Mito. Gianluca



has never spoken publicly about his life with Mito, but this time he enthusiastically said "yes" and came home that night to write his speech. On September 22, before a packed room of 40 children, teachers and staff, all dressed in green, Gianluca confidently shared:

Hello! Some of you may know me some of you might not because I'm new here. Some of you are wondering why the heck is this kid making a speech about Mitochondrial Disease!?? Well today is kinda like a birthday for me because I have Mitochondrial Disease myself. The mitochondria is the powerhouse of the cell and has to do with energy. Mitochondrial Disease can make people who have it get tired fast. People who have it don't make as much energy from food like you guys that's why some of you may see me get tired fast. But even though I get tired, I still like to run and play with everyone. It might also shorten people's lives so people who have it wanna try to have the best time possible. It also makes people get dehydrated faster than you guys which could lead to more headaches. I have actually had a lot of headaches over the past few years. Everybody can have different Mitochondrial Disease. It can affect their brain where they have seizures all the time or their heart so they need oxygen. There are even some types that shorten your life to less than two years old. My disease affects my stomach and my lungs the most. I feel lucky because I don't have Mitochondrial Disease in other areas like my brain. Kids with Mitochondrial Disease also get sicker from things like a cold. When they get sick, it makes the disease worse and that means they may not live as long. So I go to the hospital every 6 weeks to get a medicine called IVig. That helps build up my cells so I don't get sick as easily. That's all you need to know about mitochondrial disease and me, thanks for coming. If you have questions, please ask!"

We are so proud of Gianluca's bravery and commitment to educate others about Mitochondrial Disease! ❤️