



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

ICU baby would like to thank you for your interest in volunteer opportunities with our organization. Your gift of volunteer hours will impact our community's families as they journey with their baby through weeks and sometimes months in the NICU. Please review the volunteer options below to consider what best suits you.

PACK-A-PACK (Suitable for up to 20 Volunteers)

ICU baby presents its signature Premie Pack to all families with babies born under 32 weeks gestational age at South Miami Hospital and Holtz Children's Hospital. This tote bag contains items for the family that will facilitate visits with their baby such as a NICU journal, dirty and clean laundry bags, and NICU Milestone Cards, etc.

'Pack-a-Pack' is an opportunity for individuals from the community to prepare our Premie Packs by gift wrapping and putting the items into the bag. Each 'packer' is asked to write a personal note of encouragement to the family of the NICU baby and it is attached to the outside of the Premie Pack.

The goal of each 'Pack-a-Pack' event is to prepare 50 bags for the upcoming quarter. ICU baby provides all of the materials necessary. This is a great on-site activity as ICU baby can travel to your location and guide this event.

ICU BABY FOR A DAY (Suitable for up to 10 Volunteers)

ICU baby works in tandem with hospitals to prepare special events for families with a baby in the NICU. Events differ each quarter. For example:

1. ICU baby participated in South Miami Hospital's NICU Reunion in September. Former NICU babies and their families were welcomed back for a family picnic to see the nurses and doctors who helped them through their NICU journey. Volunteers assisted parents and their toddlers as they played and did crafts.
2. In 2017, ICU baby will host a 'Baby Shower' event for the mothers and fathers of the NICU at Holtz Children's Hospital at UM/Jackson (exact date to follow). Volunteers will collect new baby clothes or gently used baby accessories (like strollers, highchairs, etc) and will help distribute gifts and serve food at the event.

ICU READING TO A NICU BABY (Unlimited Volunteers)

ICU baby is kicking off a new program in 2017 at South Miami Hospital. Volunteers will read to babies in the NICU whose parents have given consent. Many parents work or live far from the hospital and are unable to visit their babies often. This is a rewarding way to contribute to the wellbeing of these babies. Research shows reading at this early stage benefits a baby's language development. We hope to also bring this project to Holtz Children's Hospital in 2017.



❑ **ICU DELIVERING PREMIE PACKS** (Screenings Required)

The ICU baby team invites parents to help deliver our signature Premie Packs. The packs are presented to all families with babies born under 32 weeks gestational age. Visits to the NICU to deliver the packs takes place weekly at South Miami Hospital and every other week at Holtz Children's Hospital. Volunteers must have special clearance to enter the NICU to interact directly with the families. Training and screenings conducted by the hospital are required to become an in-hospital ICU baby volunteer.

Delivering these bags allows volunteers to present NICU families with a gift from the community and to offer bedside support during a very challenging time.

Volunteers will also deliver snacks to all NICU parents who are spending time with their babies during our visit.

❑ **SUPPER OF SUPPORT** (Sponsorship Opportunity)

ICU baby hosts monthly dinners at South Miami Hospital for all families with a baby in the NICU. These dinners are sponsored by local families, companies and restaurants. The meal is served in a conference room on the same hospital floor as the NICU so that families can briefly leave their baby's side for a warm meal. Families receive informal support from other NICU families during the course of the supper.

*This project will begin in January 2017 at Holtz Children's Hospital.

❑ **ICU HOSTING A DINNER** (Private dinner party)

ICU baby would like to continue to raise awareness about the programs that we provide to NICU families and expand our network of generous supporters. ICU baby is a grassroots, non-profit organization that is only able to carry out its projects because of donations by members of our community and corporate sponsors.

Volunteers who host a small, private dinner party enable us to share our mission and goals with potential supporters in an intimate setting. These dinner parties have the opportunity to be "mini fundraisers" for the organization and will help ICU baby continue to serve struggling families in our community. ICU baby's next initiative is to provide financial support to families who are unable to visit their sick babies because they cannot afford transportation or lodging. This campaign will be kicked off in 2017.

Note: One hundred percent of donations made to ICU baby directly fund ongoing projects, as all administrative fees are paid privately.

❑ **FUNDRAISING SUPPORT** (Suitable for up to 10 Volunteers)

One hundred percent of donations made to ICU baby directly support ongoing projects, as all of our administrative fees are paid for privately. We rely on private and corporate donations as well as fundraising events for project financing. ICU baby's goal is to have passionate volunteers at all of its events for support and enthusiasm for our cause. Volunteer assistance with the check-in, silent auction tables, raffle sales and planning the event are just some of the ways individuals can become involved in our fundraising events.