

**Children's Campaign**  
2008 Truth Tour Town Hall Meeting  
City of Orlando City Hall  
October 9, 2008

Opening Remarks by David A. Odahowski, President  
Edyth Bush Charitable Foundation, Inc

Good evening everyone, on behalf of Jerry Hilbrich, Chairman of the Board of the Edyth Bush Charitable Foundation, the entire Board of Directors, and staff of the Foundation, I want to say how grateful we are that the Children's Campaign has come to the City of Orlando, to Orange County, and to all of Central Florida. This community, like no other, has been built upon the dreams of children and families. Million's of children from around the world come to Central Florida to have their dreams come true. What about our children? What promises have we made, and more importantly, what promises have we kept, to Florida's four million children?

For 35 years, the Edyth Bush Charitable Foundation has been helping people help themselves through community based organizations. In that time, the Foundation has made grants exceeding 90 million dollars across the state of Florida, but primarily in our own backyard of Central Florida. Mr. and Mrs. Bush never had any children, but Mrs. Bush was often heard to say that her foundation was her child. In her life and in her passing, the Edyth Bush Charitable Foundation has had a keen interest in children; from B.E.T.A , to the Y.M.C.A. and to every organization in between that serves the needs of children, the Foundation has offered financial support, endorsement, and encouragement! The promises we want for all of Florida's children are the same promises we make to our own children:

- Health
- Protection
- Learning
- After school activities
- Prevention
- Justice

These promises are nonpartisan and apolitical. Like any good promise, they require an investment of time, effort and resources, less they become an overwhelming cost to future generations.

Thank you to the Children's Campaign, all of the sponsors, and to all of you, for the things you do in the name of Florida's children.