

## SPOTLIGHTS

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## Spotlights

### GOLF FORE A CAUSE 09

If golf is your game, you won't find a better excuse to get out on the green. But even if you've never nudged a ball off the tee, Sunday, April 19, is the day to take your swing at it. By playing 18 holes at the Pebble Creek Golf Course, or sponsoring the event, you can help some of Calcutta's neediest children: students at the D.F. Blind School.


That's the message that event organizers of Golf FORE a Cause (GFAC) are sending as they determine to raise \$40,000 to benefit The Starfish Children's Foundation (SCF), a non-profit organization co-founded by accountancy major **Brittany McCann '09**. Since its inception in 2004, SCF has focused its aid efforts on the education and integration of children who are blind or severely visually impaired. Blindness carries a fatalistic stigma in India, resulting in the estimated 90 per cent of visually impaired children who do not attend school, and are either shunned or tragically neglected by society.

In the past five years, SCF has raised \$250,000 to renovate and expand the school's original facility; the additional \$40,000 will help construct a second building at the D.F. Blind School.

"The new building will allow twice as many children to attend the school," says McCann.

Besides a great day on the green, GFAC offers an opportunity for companies who recruit on campus to increase their visibility during Career Fair next fall. Tournament sponsorships will earn companies heightened marketing opportunities.

Both SCF and GFAC grew from young people's desire to make a difference in the world. McCann and her sister established the foundation while they were still students in high school in Connecticut. The golf event got its start in the spring of 2008 when students in a special course were inspired to raise money for cancer research. Within a month, they put together the inaugural GFAC, which not only generated \$18,000 in funds, but started a Farmer School fundraising tradition whose beneficiary will change each year.

"The desire to help others is very much a part of the culture at Miami," says Farmer School **Dean Roger L. Jenkins**. "Farmer School students demonstrate their leadership and organizational skills by planning and producing Golf FORE a Cause. We want to strongly encourage students, faculty members, staff, and alumni to participate in this event, which will bring life-changing resources to the D.F. Blind School, and will provide an opportunity for Miami's Farmer School community to gather and celebrate." 

Content maintained by [External Relations](#)



Students, teachers, and founders at The D.F. Blind School in Calcutta, India



Starfish Children's Fund co-founder **Brittany McCann** shares a moment with a student



Board members of Starfish Children's Fund and organizers of Golf FORE a Cause with alumnus Pat O'Brien.

- **When:** April 19, 2009
- **Where:** Pebble Creek Golf Course, located on Colerain just off I-275, approximately a 25-minute drive from Oxford

➔ [Click here for a full schedule and more information.](#)