

Dr. Niamtu Cosmetic facial surgeon volunteers time and care

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Dr. Niamtu and his wife, April, with Danny Teodorescu after surgery.

Dr. Joe Niamtu is well known for his community spirit and volunteer work in central Virginia. He and his wife have two young children with cerebral palsy and they are active in support and fundraising for the Greater Richmond ARC. They are ongoing sponsors of ARC's Annual Ladybug Wine Tasting event to benefit infant intervention and have served as spokespeople for the organization.

Dr. Niamtu has also served as a community spokesperson for Safe Harbor Battered Women's Shelter. The mission of this



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spokesperson for Safe Harbor Battered Women's Shelter. The mission of this organization is to provide shelter and support services to victims of domestic violence throughout our community as we work to break the cycle of abuse. Dr. Niamtu will treat facial injuries or cosmetic facial problems for shelter residents free of charge.

One such case is that of Star Austin. Star was holding her 1-year-old infant when her husband shot her in the head with a 40 caliber handgun. She lost vision in her left eye, but has recovered well after Dr.

Niamtu's pro bono treatment of her scars and facial damage.

Additionally, Dr. Niamtu has served as chairperson for the Richmond branch of Operation Smile and has worked with scores of charities including Connor's Heroes, Noah's Children and Heal the Children, which are groups that support children with cancer and other serious diseases.

Dr. Niamtu not only supports numerous charities, but has also performed pro bono facial reconstruction for scores of local patients in need. When Romanian immigrant Danny Teodorescu was shot in the neck while selling ice cream at a Richmond playground, Dr. Niamtu immediately reached out to the young man to offer his services for Danny's facial injuries. When it was time for Danny to be released from the hospital, Dr. Niamtu took him in to his own home to recuperate. What was expected to be a four day stay turned into four years, and Danny became a "member" of the Niamtu family. "He took me in when I had no one," said Danny. "He's been like a father to me, and I credit him for my recovery and for showing me what a caring community this really is. Dr. Joe has been a great role model for me."



Dr. Niamtu and his wife, April, with Danny Teodorescu after surgery.



Dr. Joe Niamtu and his wife, April, with Nathan Orban, a courageous young man who has battled leukemia. To benefit Connor's Heroes, Dr. Niamtu and his wife placed the winning bid on Nathan's artwork.