



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

[lisa@cherab.org](mailto:lisa@cherab.org)

CONTACT: Lisa Geng (772) 919-1417

### **Cherab's Friendship Circle To Throw Charlie Chuong a Birthday Party And All Are Invited**

Help us let him know he has friends while also bringing awareness against alienation and bullying.

Port St. Lucie, FL: Cherab Friendship Circle™, an initiative of the 501(c)3 nonprofit Cherab Foundation, is joining the Treasure Coast community in helping celebrate a life-changing birthday party for 12-year-old Charlie Chuong. Charlie, who is autistic, suffers from loneliness due to a lack of friends. He desperately needs to know that some kids want to be his friend. Charlie's community birthday party opens the door to all that is good in life, friendship, kindness, and of course, cake! Bullying and alienation are not welcome. All are invited to the birthday festivities, **including a motorcade by Ecto Force Ghostbusters and the St. Lucie police at 1 PM to bring Charlie to the party**, as well as a special live appearance by The Mets, Superheroes, first responders, fun photos, bowling, games, and so much more: it takes place on Saturday.

**December 10, 2022**, 1-3pm at SuperplayUSA 1600 NW Courtyard Circle Port St. Lucie, FL. 34986.

"Charlie just wants a friend," says his dad, Pierre Chuong. Until the beginning of 5th grade, he has always been a carefree, happy little boy willing to share and even give away his toys to anyone who asks." Recently and going into adolescence, he feels alone with no one to share his discoveries and contagious smile. He's aware that he is different and maybe something is wrong with him when seeing his siblings have friends and he doesn't. Some kids refer to him as "the boy that doesn't talk" He tried to make friends with online gaming but only felt frustrated after being mocked for how he talks. "He needs to know that he is worthy of having friends and that he is not alone," said Pierre. For the past eleven years, Charlie has celebrated his birthday only with family. "We spent hundreds of dollars on his parties with his special super-hero cake," said Pierre. "Charlie waited and waited, and nobody came." By the 3rd grade, when he tested out as Autistic, he began his transition into his isolation class with other autistic boys, where the other students in the general population ignored him. He has spent over three years in self-contained classes away from the rest of his classmates, hindering any chance of making real friends. "It breaks my heart seeing that a genuine, loving, and caring boy like Charlie would struggle to find friends. Someone would be fortunate if they had Charlie as a friend. "I think we should teach our kids that everyone is different and not only is that okay, but it's awesome!" - Pierre Chuong

Reading about a Cherab Friendship Circle birthday party for William Morales gave Charlie's parents the idea to have an event for Charlie to help him make friends. As the guest of honor, Charlie, along with the Cherab Foundation and the Chuong family, welcomes the whole community to join him to celebrate all those individuals and families out there feeling the same alienation and come out and join the fun, share some cake and make a few new friends. "I want Charlie and children like him to be happy and enjoy life to the fullest. Please help me and other dads like me create a happy world for our children to live in, where they can be safe and have fun." Pierre said.

That's precisely the foundation of the Cherab Friendship Circle community party, says founder Lisa Geng. "We are dedicated to improving the lives of those who are bullied and alienated, fostering acceptance, compassion, and friendship through open-invite birthday parties, community awareness, and common kindness," she added. "Please consider donating to the Cherab Foundation as we begin to build our program with a committed goal to bring our birthday party initiative to every state in the U.S."

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**RSVP here and wish Charlie a Happy Birthday , as he will be checking his wall**

**Charlie's Webpage**

**Charlie's Birthday Party Flyer**

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Cherab Friendship Circle, a 501©3 Cherab Foundation project, hosts HUGE Community Birthday Parties for friendless kids across the country. Featured in local and national news, we proactively fight bullying by bringing together like-minded people, raising awareness about differences, and fostering acceptance and compassion. Volunteer-based since 2000, the Cherab Foundation is focused on helping children with neurological and genetic communication impairments such as autism and apraxia. Donations are tax-deductible. The federal tax ID number is 22-3685234