



## **Onlus association "Sciare Per La Vita" (Ski For Life)**

The non-profit association "Sciare per la vita" was founded in Bormio on the 14<sup>th</sup> October 2002 by Deborah Compagnoni, who has been its President ever since. The Vice President of the association is the ex-downhill skier Pietro Vitalini. This association was founded with the aim of organising an annual event to remember Barbara Compagnoni (Deborah's cousin) who prematurely died of leukaemia. The association is active in fund-raising activities to support the A.I.L. (Association against leukaemia, myeloma and lymphoma) and other non-profit organisations which work in the fields of medicine & health. Further to raising funds the association organises sport, entertainment and cultural events and works with schools and other organisations to promote an understanding of the research against serious diseases. This year the association has built a partnership with "Sciare Sicuri Tour" (Ski safety tour) in which Deborah will give one of the testimonials. The tour will stop at the most important ski resorts to promote skiing as a safe sport and to promote safety and prevention.

The fund-raising activities organised by the association since its foundation are numerous. The total amount of around 230.000 € has been raised through ski races (such as the yearly memorial held in remembrance of Barbara Compagnoni), lotteries, auctions during which items belonging to sport celebrities have been sold (like Deborah's Olympic torch - Turin 2006), partnerships and donations. 52.000 € was donated to the A.I.L (Sondrio branch) in the period 2002/2003. 50.000 € was donated to the A.I.L (Sondrio branch) in the period 2003/2004 (the money was used to build the first sterile room at the hospital E. Morelli in Sondalo - Sondrio) 60.000 € was donated to A.I.L (national branch) in the period 2004/2005 to support the ASDOM project (home paediatric assistance). 50.000 € was donated in the period 2005/2006 to support the project "A dream for the Gaslini" promoted by the paediatric hospital of Genova. Last season the association has focused its attention and work toward the organisation "Tettamanti" of Monza (Milan) which is active in the research against leukaemia and childhood blood diseases at the hospital "San Gerardo". Numerous initiatives

have been taken to raise money since the opening of the ski season at the trade show "Skipass" in Modena when the Regione Lombardia (regional administration of Lombardy) and the Consortium of Tourist Operators from the Sondrio-Valtellina area contributed towards the association. In total 20.000 was raised. This project will continue in the 2007-2008 season.

The "Giornata con i campioni"(A day with the champions) is the most important part of this event and it has now become a fixture: this year it will be held in the new ski area "Sunny Valley" in Santa Caterina on the 30<sup>th</sup> of March. As usual, both present and past sport champions, alongside many Olympic medal winners, will participate in the Gala Dinner on saturday. Many people will be involved in this great event; friends, athletes, volunteers and also newcomers. The VIPs which will be present at the event along with Deborah and Pietro Vitalini are numerous; Antonio Rossi, Jury Chechi, Alberto Tomba, Kristian Ghedina, Giorgio Rocca, Paoletta Magoni, Gabriella Paruzzi, Manuela Di Centa, Igor Cassina, Andrea Lucchetta, Riccardo Patrese, Gilberto Simoni, Marco De Gasperi and the skiers of the Italian national team along with all the "Valtellinesi" (skiers from Valtellina). Many other athletes and former athletes will lead the different teams in the giant slalom in the Memorial of Barbara Compagnoni.



**SCIARE PER LA VITA**

P.zza Magliavaca 23030 Santa Caterina Valfurva (So)

tel.0342 935544 fax 0342 935342

[www.santacaterina.it](http://www.santacaterina.it)      [info@santacaterina.it](mailto:info@santacaterina.it)

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