



For Immediate Release

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Pat Fraher And Family Work To Continue the Journey

Washington, D.C. - November 28, 2006 – NBA referee Pat Fraher and his family presented a check on behalf of “Julia’s Journey” earlier this month, for more than \$30,000 to the Hematology/Oncology Department at Children’s Hospital and Clinics of Minnesota. The contribution is fruit of a voyage both hopeful and sad, and by all means not yet done.

In June 2005, Fraher’s vibrant 2-year-old niece Julia was diagnosed with Neuroblastoma, a childhood cancer. To help defray the growing costs of the aggressive treatments she needed to undertake, Fraher and his wife Teresa set up “Julia’s Journey Golf Tournament” in September of that year. The tournament was a success, and allowed Julia’s parents to “focus on what mattered most – being present for their daughter, and enjoying every moment together as a family,” according to the organization.

After a long fight, the courageous little girl succumbed to an infection that entered her compromised immune system. Julia Fraher passed away on May 24, 2006.

To help the many other children afflicted with similar illnesses, the Frahers chose to continue fundraising in her honor. This past August, 110 golfers – co-workers, family and friends, many local and some of whom flew in from different parts of the country like NBA referee Steve Javie – met at Stone Ridge Golf Club just outside of the Twin Cities for the memorial “Julia’s Journey Golf Tournament”

With the great number of participants, donations (many from NBRA members) and sponsorships of local businesses and the NBA, the tournament exceeded planners’ fundraising expectations, and paved the way for next year’s event.

The third annual Julia’s Journey Golf Tournament will be held August 29, 2006 – in hopes that Julia’s difficult journey can help make the trek better for other children in need.

To make a donation, find out more about the 2006 event, or to read Julia's story, see the tournament's website at: <http://www.juliasjourneyinfo.com>.

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