



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **Phoenix Children's announces 15<sup>th</sup> annual Beach Ball**

Phoenix Children's Hospital will import the style and pizzazz of the Italian Riviera this year with the 15<sup>th</sup> annual Beach Ball fundraiser on Saturday, March 8, 2008 at the Arizona Biltmore Resort and Spa. Proceeds will go to the hospital's Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders.

The event will begin at 5:30pm with cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and a silent auction. The program with a video honoring the families of McKenzie Monks and Jaydee King will begin at 8:00 pm with dinner and a live auction followed by entertainment and dancing until midnight.

This year the Beach Ball committee will honor two families from the Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders, who have lost their daughters to Cancer and have each made a positive statement by establishing foundations in their names. The McKenzie Morgan Monks Foundation and the Jaydie Lynn Foundation were created by each family in the hope that the spirit of these little girls will live on by helping other children who have Cancer.

The Jaydie Lynn Foundation began as a way to honor the wishes of Jaydie King. The Moon Valley 8 year old died from a brain tumor in 2005 at Phoenix Children's Hospital. During her battle Jaydie, family, and friends united as 'Team Jaydie' to raise awareness about pediatric cancer and raise funds for organizations helping families like hers.

Jaydie's family describes her as an absolute angel throughout her brief life. She had an infectious personality, giving spirit and wonderful sense of humor. Throughout her illness, she literally touched thousands of lives. Jaydie personally raised thousands of dollars and spread awareness about pediatric cancer and tumors through her Foundation. Throughout her life, she has shown amazing concern for others. It became even more apparent during her sickness as she demonstrated tremendous compassion for other sick children around her. She made sure that she always brought gifts to share with others in the Cancer Clinic with her.

Beyond that, Jaydie was concerned about her parents and other family members and how her sickness affected them. Even as her suffering became unbearable, she never complained about anything and remained cheerful and positive; she was the essence of courage and more. Jaydie's parents say she has set a high standard for us to live up to. As a child, she provided an everlasting example of what is good and right.

Supporters of Team Jaydie and the Jaydie Lynn King Foundation continue her giving spirit through many successful fundraising events. The Foundation has raised more than \$70,000 for support her fellow cancer patients at Phoenix Children's Hospital.

McKenzie Morgan Monks, was born on September 16, 1998 and arrived into a loving family and was happiest trailing behind her sisters, Michelle and Mandy, who always laughed because her taste was 8 years older than

her age. If her sisters liked it; she liked it. By 2 years old she was wearing the hippest styles, singing the latest hits and you could always count on a dance performance with every song and a hug at every corner.

In December of 2001 tragedy struck McKenzie and her family. At the age of three years she was diagnosed with b-lateral Wilms Tumor: cancer in both kidneys. She immediately went into surgery and treatment and now faced a life of docs needles, months of chemo, surgeries, 50 radiation treatments and the brutal process of a bone marrow transplant. While most children were happily playing, she was undergoing the painful process of trying to kill the cancer cells growing in her small body. And what did she do? She loved. She laughed. She played and yes, she danced.

McKenzie left her life of pain after nearly 19 months of treatment in August of 2003, 6 weeks before her 5<sup>th</sup> birthday. A child who never had the opportunity to go to school taught so many lessons, to so many people about love and life. She taught us all that life is a gift and should never be taken for granted. It is the Monks family intention to let McKenzie's spirit and name live on by helping children endure the painful process of fighting cancer. The McKenzie Monks Foundation provides toy rooms at oncology departments as well as hospitals with arts, crafts, movies, and objects of comfort and entertainment that help a child cope with the long days of treatment. The Foundation also gives kids undergoing cancer treatment a "Kenzie Kase", wheeled suitcases filled with a personal DGVD player movies, and age appropriate items to entertain and comfort the individual child

**Beach Ball Information:**

Saturday, March 8, 2008,  
The Arizona Biltmore Resort and Spa  
2400 E. Missouri Ave  
Phoenix, Arizona 85016

**Entertainment:** The popular alternative rock band Lifehouse will perform. Lifehouse's recent hit "First Time" reached #3 on the adult top 40 charts. Attire is Beach wear to Ball wear. There will also be an after- hours lounge from 10 p.m. until 1 a.m.

**FOR TICKET information:**

Call the Phoenix Children's Foundation at (602) 546-5024