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**Wine-tasting event benefits the Children's Heart Center at Phoenix Children's Hospital
February 10 at Market Street Park in DC Ranch**

Phoenix – January 23, 2008 -- The fifth annual wine tasting event to benefit the Children's Heart Center at Phoenix Children's Hospital will be held at Market Street Park in DC Ranch on February 10 between 5:30 and 7:30 p.m.

The event is being co-chaired by Terri Keck and Amy Bjorkman, parents of children with Congenital Heart Disease who met at the Center. Their children - Emma Bjorkman and Jeremy Keck were born more than two decades apart. But the toddler and young adult have more in common than you might think.

Three-year-old Emma and 24-year-old Jeremy were both born with a double inlet left ventricle – a complex and rare heart defect where one ventricle is missing or underdeveloped, leaving the heart with only one functioning ventricle. It's one of the most severe types of heart defects, and children must undergo at least three major open heart surgeries to repair the defect. But thanks to skilled heart surgeons, the love of their families, and sheer will, a heart condition hasn't slowed Emma down, nor kept Jeremy from accomplishing his goals. They both demonstrate just how far medical care for serious heart defects has come. But more importantly, they're shining examples of how the right attitude can make all the difference.

The Children's Heart Center opened at Phoenix Children's Hospital in February of 2001 and provides life-saving care for children requiring treatment for congenital heart disease. In 2006, more than 400 pediatric heart surgeries were performed at Phoenix Children's Hospital. That same year, Phoenix Children's Hospital opened the State's only Pediatric dedicated Heart Catheterization Laboratory in Arizona and the only Hybrid Lab in the Southwest. The new lab offers minimally invasive procedures to infants and children, who would otherwise need more invasive cardiac surgeries

Jeremy's story Jeremy has had five open heart surgeries and 10 major surgeries, including a pacemaker that was placed in his heart 16 years ago. After spending so much time at Phoenix Children's, the Hospital has become a second home to Jeremy and his family.

Always a "glass is half full" kind of guy, Jeremy says it's important to keep things in perspective and make the most of the life he's been given. Today, Jeremy is on very little medication and has no major lingering issues because of his condition. He comes to Phoenix Children's every six months for follow up care, saying it's a relief to come back to the same place and the same people, knowing he'll receive the very best quality of care available.

A college graduate who works as a project manager for a large construction firm in the Valley, Jeremy is also a scratch golfer and spends as much time as he can on the greens. He also spends time giving back to Phoenix Children's through various fundraisers. "

Emma's story Emma spent the first seven months of her life at Phoenix Children's Hospital. At only five days old, Emma's first surgery to repair her heart was a success. But she had persistent problems that required four open-heart surgeries in less than five months. "Emma never followed the logical rules of how things were supposed to go, and that changed things so dramatically," says her mom Amy. "She has definitely kept everyone on their toes."

Today, Emma is still keeping people on their toes – namely her parents – who are grateful to be chasing the toddler around, whether Emma is swinging or riding her tricycle. She slows down only long enough to watch Spongebob Squarepants or Blue's Clues. Emma loves being the center of attention, especially if that means

showing off her singing, dancing and air guitar skills. In 2006, Emma underwent the second stage of the required three-stage surgery. It was a success, and 2007 was the first year Emma was surgery-free since she was born. .

Although Emma still has one more surgery to go at Phoenix Children's, there's no doubt this little fighter will come through with flying colors.

Event Information: Wine Tasting from the best vineyards including Ravenswood, Solarie by Robert Mondovi and more, Raffle, Entertainment, Silent Auction and gourmet appetizers from Patsy Grimaldi's Tickets are \$55.00 each or \$100. per couple at the door. Wine Tasting Sponsorship Opportunities are also available. Opportunities to donate as a friend of Emma and Jeremy are also available. For tickets call Angelica Mungarro at Phoenix Children's Foundation at (602) 546-2664. More information at: www.pchwinetastingevent.com

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