## ANNOUNCING FIVE MILLION DOLLAR GIFT TO ESTABLISH THE FIGHT FOR CHILDREN SPORTS MEDICINE CENTER

## FIGHT FOR CHILDREN CONTINUES COMMITMENT TO AT-RISK STUDENT ATHLETES THROUGHOUT THE REGION

WASHINGTON, DC October 31, 2019 - Fight For Children has announced a gift of five million dollars to Children's National to establish the Fight For Children Sports Medicine Center, the region's first sports medicine center dedicated exclusively to the needs of youth athletes. The new center, expected to open in the later part of 2020, will not only provide world class clinical care and rehabilitation services for sports-related injuries, but will also offer programs on injury prevention and performance evaluation, including a state-of-the-art motion analysis and performance lab. In addition, the Center's mission will include conducting research on youth sports-related medical care, as well as providing a home for education and other community outreach activities. Fight for Children's gift will ensure that the benefits from the Center will be available and accessible to all youth in the region, particularly those from underserved communities. The Center will be located at the lobby level of the former Discovery Communications headquarters in Silver Spring, MD, one block from the Metro.

David Fensterheim, Chairman of Fight For Children's Board of Directors, stated, "Fight For Children is excited to continue our investment in the great work of Children's National, one of our longest standing beneficiaries. The Center will honor the legacy of our late founder, Joe Robert Jr., and will continue his life-long mission to support the health and education of at-risk children throughout the region. It is fitting that the Center will be in Silver Spring, Joe's childhood home."

Fight For Children's relationship with the new Fight For Children Sports Medicine Center will extend beyond the investment of funds. Fight for Children staff anticipate providing active and ongoing support for the Center's community outreach and education efforts, working with local schools, coaches, and youth sports organizations to ensure that the benefits of the Center are available and accessible to all area youth, including those in underserved communities.

"When kids are healthy and able to participate in sports, the benefits they derive transcend age, race, gender, income, and class," said Keith Gordon, President and CEO of Fight For Children. "We're proud to join Children's National in establishing this Center as the premier facility to keep children moving on the field, in the classroom, and into the future. This project embodies our mission and the legacy of our late founder, Joe Robert, Jr., whose life passion was helping children."

Kurt Newman, CEO of Children's National said: "We are honored to receive Fight For Children's amazing gift. And we are thrilled to be able to continue our partnership with the talented team at Fight for Children. We look forward to working with them in the coming years to bring the benefits of the Fight For Children Sports Medicine Center to the community at large."

Fight For Children's gift is made possible by funds raised from sponsors of its annual fundraiser, Fight Night. This year, Fight Night will celebrate its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary and host *Fight Night: The Final Round*, its grand finale. All of the expenses of Fight Night this year will be underwritten by its presenting sponsor, the Joseph E. Robert Jr. Charitable Trust. As a result, 100% of gross proceeds from *Fight Night: The Final Round* will directly benefit children in need. For additional information or to sponsor a table at *Fight Night: The Final Round*, visit <a href="https://www.fightforchildren.org/fightnight">www.fightforchildren.org/fightnight</a>.

## **About Fight for Children**

The late Joseph E. Robert, Jr. created Fight For Children and Fight Night in 1990 as a way to marshal resources to help children from low-income families in the nation's capital secure a brighter future. Today, Fight For Children's mission is to foster the physical, social and emotional, and academic development of student athletes from at-risk communities through Washington, DC Fight For Children also hosts Fight Night, one of the most highly acclaimed fundraising events in DC, bringing together 2,000 heavyweights of business and government, entertainment, and community service, as well as legends from the sports and boxing world, for an evening of networking, exciting entertainment and live professional boxing bouts. For more information, follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

## **About Children's National Hospital**

Children's National Hospital, based in Washington, D.C., has served the nation's children since 1870. It is one of the nation's top-5 pediatric hospitals, and, for a second straight year, ranked No. 1 in newborn care, and is ranked in all specialties, by *U.S. News & World Report.* Children's National has been designated two times as a Magnet® hospital, a designation given to hospitals that demonstrate the highest standards of nursing and patient care delivery. This pediatric academic health system offers expert care through a convenient, community-based primary care network and specialty outpatient centers in the D.C. metropolitan area, including the Maryland suburbs and Northern Virginia. Home to the Children's Research Institute and the Sheikh Zayed Institute for Pediatric Surgical Innovation, Children's National is the seventh-highest NIH-funded pediatric institution in the nation. Children's National is recognized for its expertise and innovation in pediatric care and as a strong voice for children through advocacy at the local, regional and national levels. For more information, follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

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