

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



SARATOGA SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY GIRLS LACROSSE ACCEPTS LACROSSE OUT CANCER CHALLENGE IN HONOR OF FRIEND AND SCHOOLMATE OLIVIA ALLEN

Saratoga Teens Come Together To Defeat Pediatric Cancers By Raising Money for Innovative Research

Saratoga Springs, NY, April 17–The Saratoga Springs High School and the Jamesville-DeWitt High School Varsity Girls Lacrosse teams will come together in a spirited match-up this coming Monday, April 22 at 4 pm at Saratoga Springs High School to honor the memory of Olivia Allen, a friend and schoolmate lost to leukemia just one short month ago. By accepting the LaCROSSE Out Cancer Challenge to benefit the Pediatric Cancer Research Foundation (PCRF), these youth lacrosse players are uniting to raise money for childhood cancer research to fuel the discovery of modern cures so more kids can survive and beat this devastating disease.

Olivia Allen succumbed after living with blood cancer for nearly a year. Regrettably, her experience is not unique. More children under 20 years old are lost to cancer than any other disease. As the players hope to underscore, funding breakthrough research is the only way to develop innovations that can save lives.

“We are proud of the way our players are stepping up to help other kids. Unfortunately, too many of them have a friend, relative, or peer who has faced cancer. We all feel that it’s important to contribute and ensure a better future for kids,” said Jennifer Furze, Head Girls Lacrosse Coach for Saratoga Springs High School.

“Creating a world without pediatric cancer takes all of us,” explained Bonnie Lattimore, Director of Strategic Partnerships, Pediatric Cancer Research Foundation. “Research takes a lot of funding and progress is limited by a lack of resources. We’re grateful to the Saratoga Springs High School Varsity Girls Lacrosse for helping to fill the funding gap.”

Prior to the opening draw, the players from Jamesville-DeWitt will complete 47 passes with the players from Saratoga Springs in honor of Olivia Allen and the 47 kids diagnosed with cancer each day in the US. Their goal is to raise \$10,000 and have raised nearly \$7,000 so far. There is still time to help them reach, or even exceed the goal. Each \$50 raised supports a vital hour of research. To support their fundraiser, [please visit this site](#).

Due to research advances, overall survival rates for childhood cancers have grown by 70 percent in the past 40 years. Still, about 20 percent of kids with pediatric cancer do not survive today. About two-thirds of those who do will suffer long-lasting chronic health conditions from their treatment and one-quarter will face severe or life-threatening late effects from their treatment. To address these challenges, the Pediatric Cancer Research Foundation invests in research that pushes the boundaries of science and accelerates the development of new treatments and diagnostic tools specifically for children’s and young adults’ developing bodies.

To learn more about childhood cancer research, and how you can help, visit pcrf-kids.org.

###

About the LaCROSSE Out Cancer Challenge

All lacrosse players, regardless of age or level, are encouraged to participate in the LaCROSSE Out Cancer Challenge. Here's how:

1. Accept the Challenge!
2. Register to LaCROSSE Out Cancer at www.lacrosseoutcancer.org.
3. Decide which Challenge works best for you:
 - Complete 47 reps of your choice (ex. passes, shots, groundballs, wall ball, etc.) each day for one week at any time.
 - Complete 47 reps once a week for a whole month.
 - Have a LaCROSSE Out Cancer game where friends and family members can donate \$47 in support of the cause. A portion of the ticket proceeds could support your campaign. Have an "I Stand For" moment, ceremonial check presentation, PA reads and social media.
 - GET CREATIVE! Come up with your own challenge/initiative involving the number 47!
4. Invite friends and family to donate \$47 in honor of the 47 kids diagnosed with cancer each day in the US.
5. Challenge your teammates and other teams across the country to join you!
6. Send photos/videos to us at @pcrf_kids or info@pcrf-kids.org to be featured on our social media.

Everyone can be a part of transforming pediatric cancer care and saving lives, even if you don't play lacrosse. Donate to research [here](#).

About the Pediatric Cancer Research Foundation

Determined to transform pediatric cancer care by accelerating research breakthroughs, the Pediatric Cancer Research Foundation has one goal: to make it possible for all children facing childhood cancers to beat their disease and realize their full potential. Overseen by scientific thought leaders, its rigorous and competitive process for awarding research grants has contributed to pivotal advancements in the areas of non-Hodgkin Lymphoma, Immunotherapy/CAR T cells, Osteosarcoma, Juvenile Myelomonocytic Leukemia, and Acute Myeloid Leukemia. The Pediatric Cancer Research Foundation is a GuideStar Platinum-rated charity. Its actions and commitment are encapsulated in its inspiring motto: Powering Cures, Realizing Futures. For more information, please visit www.pcrf-kids.org.