

BlakesMiracle.org

Children Helping Children

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Attention: Assignment Editors

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Foundation Hold's a SWIM-A-THON to benefit Children's Hospital **BLAKE'S MIRACLE** raises money for Banner Desert Children's Hospital

On Saturday, March 3, 2007 over 1,000 children ages 12 months to 12 years and volunteers will participate in Blake's Miracle annual **SWIM-A-THON** and **SILENT AUCTION**. The event will benefit hospitalized children at Banner Children's Hospital at Banner Desert Medical Center in the East Valley.

Blake's Miracle Foundation is all about **children helping children**. On December 25, 2005, 21 month old Blake Whitehead was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL). After a brave 3 month fight against this disease, Blake passed away on March 8, 2006. Shortly after that, Blake's family turned their grief into Blake's Miracle foundation to help children still struggling with catastrophic diseases. On April 8, 2006, Blake's Miracle hosted their first Annual Swim-a-thon which raised over \$22,000 and three truckloads of toys for the Children's Hospital.

These donations were special because SWIMkids USA's little swimmers, ages 12 months to 12 years, swam their little hearts out of April 8th to raise this money for others in need. Some of the older children (8-11) swam as many as 350 lengths of the pool, and the younger ones (3-8) swam as many as 62 laps in one half hour. The tiniest "swimmer" (18 months - 2 years) floated in the smaller pool for as long as 46 minutes. It was heartwarming and awesome to see children swimming for other youngsters who could not help themselves. Many of the students had never swam so far. Because they wanted to help other ill children, participants pushed themselves far beyond their and our expectations to raise as much money as they could for the hospital.

This year, the volunteers at SWIMkids USA, Inc. and their swimmers are anxious for the opportunity to raise over \$50,000.00 (goal) to help hospitalized children in the East Valley. There is such a need. We need your help.

What: **Blake's Miracle Foundation** present their Annual Swim-a-thon and Silent Auction to Benefit Banner Children's Hospital.

When: Saturday, **March 3, 2007** starting 8 AM

Where: SWIMkids USA, Inc. • 2725 W. Guadalupe Rd. • Mesa, AZ 85202

For more information about Blake Whitehead or Blake's Miracle please visit
www.blakesmiracle.org