

Press Release

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Haven Hospice hosts inaugural *Joes v. Pros Celebrity Softball Challenge* in Jacksonville

(JACKSONVILLE) –Sunday, December 5 proved to be a beautiful day for a softball game, as Haven Hospice and the Baseball Grounds of Jacksonville hosted the inaugural *Joes v. Pros Celebrity Softball Challenge* in Jacksonville.

WJXT's Bruce Hamilton emceed the event, featuring the University of North Florida's baseball team as the "pros." The "joes" consisted of children from the Jacksonville area. The festivities included baseball training stations, food, live music, a silent auction and a grand finale softball game of "Joes v. Pros."

American Idol Season 6 contestant Phil Stacey was the headline performer. Randy "Elvis" Walker and a local band, Lawless Hearts, also performed.

One hundred percent of the proceeds from *Joes v. Pros Celebrity Softball Challenge* supports Camp Safe Haven, a local program for children and teens, as well as patient care, services and the many programs provided by Haven Hospice that are otherwise unfunded.

"We are delighted that *Joes v. Pros* supported Camp Safe Haven," said Haven Vice President for Organizational Advancement Michael Morse. "We believe that it is very important to provide support to children who have recently experienced the loss of a loved one."

Haven currently hosts *Camp Safe Haven* camps in Jacksonville, High Springs and Williston, and has provided care, compassion and support to more than 500 children since the camp was founded nearly 10 years ago.



A University of North Florida (UNF) baseball player helps coach a player at the inaugural *Joes v. Pros Celebrity Softball Challenge*.



American Idol Season 6 contestant Phil Stacey performs at the *Joes v. Pros Celebrity Softball Challenge*.



A UNF baseball player helps with catching at *Joes v. Pros Celebrity Softball Challenge*.

About Haven Hospice

Haven Hospice is North Florida's expert in end-of-life and palliative care and is one of three 2008 Circle of Life Award® winners nationwide to be recognized as leaders in improving the care of patients near the end of life or with life-threatening conditions. Haven Hospice has also been recognized as a Florida Pacesetter for its leadership in promoting advance directives. Haven Hospice has served more than 50,000 patients and families since 1979 and has been licensed in Florida as a not-for-profit hospice since 1980. For more information, visit www.havenhospice.org, or call 800.727.1889.

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