



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**JEFF FISHER TO HOST ANNUAL CHARITY SOFTBALL GAME**

*Coach Fisher Will Host "Jeff Fisher & Friends" Celebrity Softball Game at GCS Ballpark on Sunday, June 9, 2013*

**ST. LOUIS, MO.** – St. Louis Rams Head Coach Jeff Fisher will host his annual "Jeff Fisher & Friends" Celebrity Softball Game on Sunday, June 9, 2013 at GCS Ballpark in Sauget, Illinois. The event, which will be the second annual in the St. Louis region, will feature a celebrity home run derby, softball game and post-game fireworks show and benefit five charities: The BackStoppers, The Jack and J.T. Snow Scientific Research Foundation, Mercy Ministries, Wounded Warrior Project and Catch-A-Dream Foundation.

"The softball game is a great way for our players to come together for a night of fun while benefiting charity," said Fisher. "I think everyone in attendance last year – from the players to the fans – had a blast and we are excited to make it even bigger and better this year. GCS Ballpark provides an intimate setting for fans to get an up-close look at some of their favorite players and see their personalities away from the football field. My hope is that it becomes a must-attend for Rams fans every year."

In addition to the celebrity portion of the event, team partner Worth Fastpitch will host an "Expert Skills Exhibition" from 12:30-2:30 p.m. challenging participants from the age of 8-18 to test their throwing, bunting, hitting and running skills. Following the skills competition, Worth Fastpitch will also host a home run derby, which will be open to paid attendees from 3-4 p.m.

At 4:15 p.m., Special Olympic athletes will take the field to participate in a bragging rights rivalry game featuring a team from Missouri taking on a team from Illinois.

General admission tickets for the Special Olympics game, celebrity home run derby, celebrity softball game and fireworks show are available for \$10 and reserved field seats are available for \$25.

Participation in the Worth Fastpitch Expert Skills Exhibition and a general admission ticket are available for \$30, and participation for the Worth Fastpitch Expert Skills Exhibition and a reserved field seat are available for \$45. All tickets may be purchased through the Gateway Grizzlies ticket office at [www.gatewaygrizzlies.com/tickets](http://www.gatewaygrizzlies.com/tickets).

Sponsorships are available by calling 314-781-5233. Sponsors will be invited to a special VIP reception hosted by Coach Fisher on Saturday, June 8.

***About the charitable beneficiaries:***



Started in 1959, **The BackStoppers, Inc.**, provides needed support and financial assistance to the spouses and children of all local and county police officers, firefighters, publicly-funded paramedics and EMTs and volunteer fire protection units, who have lost their lives performing their duty.

**The Jack and J.T. Snow Scientific Research Foundation** began as The Snowman Fund to raise money for Wolfram syndrome research at Washington University's School of Medicine in late 2010. The Fund has now evolved into the Foundation, sharing the same mission, to raise awareness and funding for research that one day will stop the progression of Wolfram syndrome. Wolfram syndrome is a terminal form of diabetes that results in the degradation of the nerve cells in the eyes, ears and brain, and in 60% of the cases, causes death before the patient's 30<sup>th</sup> birthday. The eight year-old daughter of Stephanie Snow Gebel, and granddaughter/niece of Jack and J.T. Snow, was diagnosed with Wolfram syndrome in the fall of 2010.

**Mercy Ministries'** free-of-charge, voluntary, faith-based residential program serves young women from all socio-economic backgrounds, ages 13-28, who face a combination of life-controlling issues such as eating disorders, self-harm, drug and alcohol addictions, depression and unplanned pregnancy. Mercy also serves young women who have been physically and sexually abused, including victims of sex trafficking. Using proven methods, a holistic approach and professional counselors in a structured residential environment, Mercy has helped thousands of young women be restored to wholeness. Mercy's goal is to help these young women find freedom from their issues and empower them to serve in their communities as productive citizens.

The mission of **Wounded Warrior Project™** is to honor and empower wounded warriors. WWP's purpose is to raise awareness and to enlist the public's aid for the needs of injured service members, to help injured servicemen and women aid and assist each other, and to provide unique, direct programs and service to meet their needs.

**Catch-A-Dream Foundation** provides once-in-a-lifetime dream hunting and fishing trips to children across the United States and Canada, age 18 and younger, who suffer from life-threatening illnesses. Through these adventures, and exposure to outdoors-minded people who care, the program instills in these children a message of encouragement at a time when they need to know that hope does, indeed, exist.

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