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Jacksonville Bar Association Young Lawyers Section golf tournament to benefit Northeast Florida Medical Legal Partnership

Baptist Health will match all funds raised at 125 percent

Video footage: Personal story of child who benefited from the Northeast Florida Medical Legal Partnership

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. – The Young Lawyers Section of the Jacksonville Bar Association has named the Northeast Florida Medical Legal Partnership (NFMLP) the beneficiary of its annual Tee It Up for Charity Golf Tournament Thursday, Oct. 18, at the Deercreek Country Club.

"We're so grateful to the Young Lawyers Section for choosing the Northeast Florida Medical Legal Partnership as the organization that will receive the proceeds from this year's tournament," said Jim Kowalski, president and CEO of Jacksonville Area Legal Aid, which provides free civil legal aid to pediatric patients and their families through the NFMLP. "The true beneficiaries are the children in our community whose medical conditions are compounded by poverty and the challenges that often accompany it, many of which only a lawyer can resolve."

The tournament begins with registration and lunch at noon, followed by a shotgun start at 1 p.m. and awards at 5 p.m. Sponsorships range from \$500 to sponsor a hole to \$5,000 for the platinum sponsorship, which includes having the company or firm's name prominently displayed on all tournament promotional materials and two foursomes. A single foursome sponsorship, at \$800, includes green's fees, golf shirt, food, and cocktails for four.

To register or sponsor the tournament, visit: www.jaxlegalaid.org/ylsgolf

Baptist Health, the tournament's primary sponsor, will match all funds raised at 125 percent, as it is doing for all donations to an endowment fund for the NFMLP, up to \$1.25 million. Over the next five years, Jacksonville Area Legal Aid seeks to raise \$1 million for the endowment, which would become \$2.25 million with the match from Baptist Health.

Young Lawyers Section Golf Tournament Chair James Poindexter said the worthiness of the cause, combined with the match from Baptist Health, made the NFMLP an obvious choice for the Section.

"We are so glad to be able to contribute to a program that combines the power of doctors and lawyers to better the lives of Northeast Florida children," Poindexter said. "And we're also really excited that the funds we raise will be more than doubled thanks to Baptist Health. You just can't beat that for impact."

Through the NFMLP, health-care professionals and institutions collaborate with attorneys to produce better outcomes for children with medical conditions. Jacksonville Area Legal Aid operates the partnership in collaboration with: Baptist Health; Wolfson Children's Hospital; Nemours Children's Specialty Care, Jacksonville; UF Health Specialty Pediatric Clinics; and Community PedsCare®, a pediatric program of Community Hospice & Palliative Care.

Poverty can often lead to health complications for children. When kids lack access to insurance, live in substandard housing or can't afford daily necessities, their health conditions often worsen. Through the NFMLP, they and their families can receive legal services in areas including help accessing health insurance and other public benefits, family law advocacy, consumer protection, immigration and ensuring safe and affordable housing.

About the Northeast Florida Medical Legal Partnership

The NFMLP is part of a nationwide network of projects in which professionals from the medical and legal communities combine resources to produce outcomes for low-income and vulnerable patients (children and adults) that positively impact their health and ability to thrive.

About Jacksonville Area Legal Aid

The mission of Jacksonville Area Legal Aid, Inc. is to obtain and provide high quality legal assistance to low income and other special need groups and to stimulate and empower groups of poor people to accomplish energetic and affirmative advocacy, all to alleviate the circumstances, incidents and causes of poverty. Donate at www.JaxLegalAid.org.

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