



Press Release

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Family creates new charity group to raise money for cancer research and resources in Greater Minnesota

St. Cloud, MN (July 13, 2009) - This summer, family get-togethers for the Karasch family often turn into committee meetings, as a group of family and friends work together to start Greater Minnesota Fight for a Cure.

The vision of Greater Minnesota Fight for a Cure is to support cancer patients and families impacted by cancer in Greater Minnesota, while involving the community and raising funds for cancer research and resources.

GMFFC Director Tracy (Karasch) Schulte and her husband Joe first dreamt up this idea after Tracy's mom, Sandy Karasch, lost her battle with multiple myeloma in 2008, at the age of 56. The painful and exhausting fight came only 2 years after Joe's mom, Aggie Schulte, was diagnosed with inflammatory breast cancer. Aggie is now in remission.

Joe's idea began as a fish-a-thon fundraiser and grew into GMFFC, with help from family and friends. Now Sarah Cords, Trent Karasch, Jay Karasch and their spouses are working along with Tracy and Joe to transform the energy that was absorbed by grief into an energy that can improve our community and the lives of those affected by cancer.

The Karasch family says starting this new charity is helping them cope with losing their mother. "I miss her everyday. She was my best friend, my supporter, the person who spoiled my kids and the cornerstone of my family," says Sarah Cords. Jay Karasch says it's been so nice to hear from people across the state who want to help. Sarah adds, "When others started signing up to be members, or chair committees for our charity event, and I saw their excitement at helping, it is a very positive and healing moment."

This year, the money raised by GMFFC will directly benefit the Coborn Cancer Center in Sartell, MN. Tracy and Joe Schulte say the Coborn Cancer Center was one of the places their families always looked to for support and encouragement. Tracy believes, "Hope can be drawn out of a positive experience, and we need cancer patients and their families to always feel they are surrounded by hope."

Trent Karasch says there were many tangible and intangible benefits the Coborn Cancer Center gave his family, "Mom really appreciated the smaller things that you do not hear about. She was really excited when she found out she could get a wig for no cost, beauty products and classes that came with them. I appreciated that they offered my family counseling services."

Now, GMFFC is working hard to "pay it forward" and ensure the great cancer resources that were available to Sandy and Aggie continue to prosper and multiply for all the patients and families that are dealing with the impact of cancer. Jay says, "Knowing that people are using those resources everyday, even our other family members... it's nice to be able to help out."

Their goal is to raise \$10,000 in the land of 10,000 lakes for cancer research and resources, through their upcoming event "Casting for a Cure." The event is on September 12, 2009. We'll send your newsroom more information on the event in August. GMFFC hopes "Casting for a Cure" will bring the community and families together to enjoy a great Minnesota pastime while raising money for a great cause.

More information available at: www.castingforacure.org
Follow GMFFC on twitter: <http://twitter.com/CastingForACure>

*Photo/video opportunity: The GMFFC board will be meet at the Schulte home to discuss the upcoming event. You will see family and friends working around a kitchen table to make a difference in our community, while babysitters attempt to distract the kids.
Details: Wednesday, July 22nd - 6:30 p.m. - 6565 Moonlight Lane, Sartell, MN 56377

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