

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**May 21, 2018**

**Contact: Mike Burke**  
**(850) 416-1153**

## **From injury to victory, Children's Hospital patient heads to national soccer tournament at Disney World**

**Destin, Fla.** — After two surgeries and four months spent in splints and casts, 10-year-old Peyton from Enterprise, Ala., is heading to a national soccer tournament at Walt Disney World in Orlando.

Former Children's Hospital patient Peyton and his traveling soccer team, Enterprise Select Soccer, is ranked first in Alabama and fourteenth in the nation. Peyton and his team will play in the Disney Memorial Day Soccer Tournament at ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex in Orlando!

In October 2017, Peyton was in a soccer tournament about to score a goal when he collided with the opposing team's goalie. Two of the bones in Peyton's left leg snapped and then struggled to line up straight.

Peyton went to the Emergency Room at Sacred Heart Hospital on the Emerald Coast for a temporary set of his leg. The next day, he met Sacred Heart Medical Group [pediatric orthopedic surgeon Dr. Robert Huang](#).

"I loved Dr. Huang's bedside manner!" said Dosha, Peyton's mom. "The way he interacted with Peyton was nice – very loving but truthful."

Because of how badly his bones had bent, Peyton underwent two surgeries – one at [Sacred Heart Hospital on the Emerald Coast](#) in Miramar Beach and one at [The Studer Family Children's Hospital at Sacred Heart](#) in Pensacola.

"It was all a whirlwind," said Dosha. "I was fearful, of course, because I didn't want to see my child go under anesthesia. There's no word for seeing your baby cry in pain, and you can't do anything about it. But after two surgeries and four different casts, we got to know the entire team very well and really grew to love them. I adore Dr. Huang's nurse practitioner, Dana, and the entire team."

Over the course of Peyton's treatment, he had one long-leg splint, two long-leg casts, one short-leg cast, a walking boot and a wheelchair. He was out of school for more than three weeks while his bones were set in the splint.

Four months of orthopedic care was difficult for an active child and his family. But on January 31, 2018, Peyton was cleared to walk. In February, he was back to soccer. In March, his team won its first tournament of what grew to be a winning season.

Now, with Peyton's soccer and baseball seasons both in full swing, his mom says his leg is "absolutely perfect!" He turned 10 in February and is finishing up fourth grade at Harrand Creek Elementary in Enterprise.

The Studer Family Children's Hospital at Sacred Heart is a 117-bed facility that serves as the only children's hospital in Northwest Florida. The Children's Hospital offers a wide range of services to meet all of a child's medical needs, from a pediatric emergency room and neonatal intensive care unit to a medical staff of more than 120 board-certified physicians across 30 pediatric specialties. The Children's Hospital provides quality, compassionate care to children, regardless of their parents' ability to pay. Sacred Heart Health System is a member of Ascension, the largest non-profit health system in the U.S. and the world's largest Catholic health system. For more information about the services available at The Studer Family Children's Hospital at Sacred Heart, visit [www.sacred-heart.org/childrenshospital](http://www.sacred-heart.org/childrenshospital).

### **About Sacred Heart Health System**

On the Gulf Coast, Ascension operates Sacred Heart Health System based in Pensacola, Fla. and Providence Hospital and Providence Medical Group based in Mobile, Ala. Together, these Ascension healthcare facilities have served Gulf Coast communities for more than 160 years and they employ more than 6,600 associates. Across the region, Ascension provided more than \$113 million in community benefit and care of persons living in poverty in fiscal year 2016. Ascension is a faith-based healthcare organization committed to delivering compassionate, personalized care to all, with special attention to persons living in poverty and those most vulnerable. Ascension is the largest non-profit health system in the U.S. and the world's largest Catholic health system, operating 2,600 sites of care – including 153 hospitals and more than 50 senior living facilities – in 22 states and the District of Columbia. For more on Sacred Heart Health System, visit [www.sacred-heart.org](http://www.sacred-heart.org).

###