



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Preemie Cup Events to Support NICU Babies from Throughout the Region

Whether you're into sailing, fishing, paddle boarding or partying, 2018 Preemie Cup events offer something for everyone. Preemie Cup events will be held Aug. 23 and Aug. 25 to support the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at the new Studer Family Children's Hospital at Sacred Heart, which is scheduled for completion in 2019. Following is the schedule of activities and information on how to register:

Thursday, Aug. 23

Preemie Cup Pre-Party & Silent Auction, 6 to 9 p.m. at The Lee House in downtown Pensacola with catering by The Fish House. Enjoy a light buffet, entertainment and a cash bar along with the silent auction. Please note: A Fishing Tournament Captain's Meeting will be held at 7 p.m. at The Lee House. For more information, call 850-416-4660.

Saturday, Aug. 25

Fishing Tournament

Lines in at 5 a.m.; Weigh-ins set for 1 to 4 p.m., Pensacola Yacht Club Sailing Center.

Registration fee: \$20, single entry; free for children 12 and under.

Awards will be presented following the tournament. For tournament rules/guidelines and registration, visit www.preemiecup.com.

Preemie Paddle Relay

9 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Pensacola Beach at 460 Pensacola Beach Blvd.

Entry fees: \$25, single entry; \$65, team of three participants.

Register at www.preemiecup.com.

Boards will be provided, and awards will be presented after the event.

Preemie Cup Regatta

Noon on Pensacola Bay

Entry fee: \$40; open to all classes.

For information, visit www.preemiecup.com

Awards will be presented after the regatta at the Pensacola Yacht Club Sailing Center.

"A bigger NICU to provide care to our community's most fragile patients will be part of the new Studer Family Children's Hospital at Sacred Heart, and we are excited to see the new hospital taking shape and getting closer to completion," said Carol Carlan, president of Sacred Heart Foundation. "Events like our Preemie Cup activities make a difference in the lives of families with tiny newborns who need the highly specialized care that only a NICU can provide. We

invite all to join us, bring your family for a fun day of play on the water, and support our community's Children's Hospital to ensure we continue to provide the very best of care to our community's babies, children and teens.”

For more than 49 years, The Studer Family Children's Hospital at Sacred Heart has been dedicated to caring for the children and families of Northwest Florida, South Alabama, Mississippi and Southwest Georgia. Funds raised from the 2018 Premie Cup will go towards the expansion of the Level II and Level III NICU inside the new Studer Family Children's Hospital at Sacred Heart to include 72 all-private rooms. While enabling Children's Hospital to care for more premature and critically ill infants, this expansion will ensure that the families of the Gulf Coast will not have to travel as far as New Orleans, Atlanta, Gainesville or Jacksonville for specialized pediatric care.

Pediatrix Medical Group is sponsoring this year's Premie Cup events. For more information, call Sacred Heart Foundation at 850-416-4661.

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 pediatric intensive care, cancer care, rehabilitation and a medical staff of more than 120 board-certified physicians across 29 pediatric specialties. The Children's Hospital provides quality, compassionate care to children, regardless of their parents' ability to pay. For more information about the services available at The Studer Family Children's Hospital at Sacred Heart, or visit Foundation.Sacred-Heart.org

Sacred Heart Health System

In Florida, Ascension operates Sacred Heart Health based in Pensacola and St. Vincent's HealthCare based in Jacksonville. Together, Ascension operates seven hospitals and more than 100 other sites of care, and they employ nearly 10,000 associates. Across the region, Sacred Heart and St. Vincent's have served North Florida communities for more than 145 years. In fiscal year 2017, they provided \$168 million in community benefit and care of persons living in poverty. Ascension (www.ascension.org) is a faith-based healthcare organization dedicated to transformation through innovation across the continuum of care. As the largest non-profit health system in the U.S. and the world's largest Catholic health system, Ascension is committed to delivering compassionate, personalized care to all, with special attention to persons living in poverty and those most vulnerable. Ascension includes approximately 165,000 associates and 34,000 aligned providers. Ascension's Healthcare Division operates more than 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 information on Sacred Heart Health System, visit www.sacred-heart.org.

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