The Ryan and Jenny Dempster Family Foundation Awards
$170,385 to Children's Charities

ATLANTA (For release February 27, 2012) – The Ryan and Jenny Dempster Family Foundation awarded fifteen charitable organizations grants through its second annual grant cycle, it was announced today. The Dempster Family Foundation strives to lend support to charities and organizations supporting children with a 22q11.2 deletion (sometimes more commonly known as DiGeorge Syndrome/VCFS) as well as other children’s charities in need in Illinois. Funds for the grant cycle were primarily raised through the Foundation’s annual fundraiser, Casino Night (held last July in Chicago; will be held May 9th this year), as well as through TEAM DEMPSTER partner fundraisers for the Foundation including: D’Agostino’s Pizza and Pub Family Night of Fun and 22q Days at D’Agostinos, Bernie’s Tap and Grill, Candyality, Potbelly’s Sandwich Shop, The Palm Restaurant and others (please see website for complete list of generous partners), as well as through generous donations from other individuals throughout the year.

“We would like to acknowledge the amazing support of our event sponsors, our TEAM DEMPSTER partners, and friends of the Foundation, who made our grant cycle possible,” said Ryan Dempster, President of the Foundation. “We are proud to announce that we funded 15 amazing organizations aligned with our mission this year --- bringing our two year total of grants and gifts to over $391,385 through the Dempster Family Foundation here in the U.S. and in Canada, through our new Dempster Foundation Canada.”

The following fifteen charities received partnership grants this year, supporting either children with the 22q11.2 disorder, or children in need in the Chicagoland area: Advocate Charitable Foundation (for Advocate Hope Children's Hospital), Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta (22q clinic), Children’s Hospital Colorado 22q Clinic, Children’s Memorial Hospital, Dragonfly Forest Camp, Light Center Foundation, March of Dimes Illinois Chapter, Maryville Academy, Nationwide Children’s Hospital 22q Center, Operation North Pole, Inc., PAWS Chicago, The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia—22q and You” Center, The David and Erin Robertson Foundation: High Socks for Hope, The International 22q11.2 Deletion Syndrome Foundation, Inc., and the Mind Institute at the University of California-Davis.

The Ryan and Jenny Dempster Family Foundation lends financial support to charities in the Chicagoland area which assist and comfort critically-ill children. The Foundation also supports youth baseball programs, military families and animal shelters; and promotes awareness of, and offers hope for, families of children diagnosed with a 22q11.2 deletion. On the 22q side, the Foundation empowers organizations to help children with this disorder overcome difficult situations through: providing funding to continue research for early detection of this disorder in children; supporting programs about 22q that provide education, physical therapy and activity to promote long-term well being; creating initiatives that build and instill confidence in these children; and developing a 22q network for families affected by this disorder to share stories and help navigate healthcare options and treatment. For more information on how to apply for a grant through the Foundation, to view this year’s grant recipients, or to learn more about the Foundation itself, please visit our website at: www.dempsterfoundation.org.

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