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## **CAROUSEL OF POSSIBLE DREAMS RAISES \$605,100 FOR FRIENDS OF CATHRYN FUND AND NEUROBLASTOMA CANCER RESEARCH**

### ***Festival of Children Foundation's signature fundraiser put the "fun" in fundraiser at South Coast Plaza's Carousel Court***

**October 10, 2014 (Costa Mesa, CA)** – Festival of Children Foundation is pleased to announce that The Carousel of Possible Dreams fundraiser benefiting Friends of Cathryn Fund (FRoC) has raised \$605,100 for neuroblastoma cancer research. Friends of Cathryn Fund is a Laguna Beach-based organization that raises money for NANT, a network of 14 universities and children's hospitals nationwide, that test promising new therapies for high-risk relapsed/refractory neuroblastoma, the third most common pediatric cancer.

Friends of Cathryn Fund is named for 11-year old Cathryn Giusto, a neuroblastoma survivor who had just turned 5 when she was diagnosed with the disease. In 2010, she was cleared, and that's when her mother Susan Giusto started the foundation. Susan's goal was to raise \$500,000 in support of NANT (New Approaches to Neuroblastoma Therapy). The Carousel of Possible Dreams fundraiser far exceeded her goal, thanks in part to a \$250,000 grant generously provided by The V Foundation for Cancer Research.

On Tuesday, September 30<sup>th</sup> nearly 150 people gathered in South Coast Plaza's Carousel Court to celebrate. Guests included members of Cathryn Giusto's Girl Scout troop. The Girl Scouts climbed aboard South Coast Plaza's carousel and went round and round and up and down in celebration of the successful collaboration between Friends of Cathryn Fund and Festival of Children Foundation.

"We're honored to be donating over \$600,000 for neuroblastoma research. This donation will help fund essential clinical trials to improve outcome. Festival of Children Foundation's support was invaluable in making this happen for the hundreds of children diagnosed with neuroblastoma each year," said Susan Giusto, founder of Friends of Cathryn Fund.

#### **About Festival of Children Foundation**

Festival of Children Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that serves to bring together and coordinate the efforts of charities, companies and individuals who actively work to improve the lives of children. Festival of Children Foundation gives a voice, guidance and support. 100% of the administrative costs are covered by designated funding, allowing donations to go further in direct support of programs and services that improve the lives of children. For more information, please visit [www.festivalofchildren.org](http://www.festivalofchildren.org).

#### **About Friends of Cathryn Fund (FRoC Fund)**

Established in 2010, FRoC's mission is to raise funds necessary to support research that will increase the survival rate of children with Neuroblastoma – an aggressive and often terminal pediatric cancer. 100% of the funds raised by the FRoC Fund go directly to New Approaches Neuroblastoma Treatment (NANT). NANT is a consortium of 14 research facilities/children's hospitals dedicated to developing and testing new therapies for Neuroblastoma.

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