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COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

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**Stanley's Dream Fund announces \$5,000 grant award to Children's Hospital of Philadelphia for Childhood Brain Cancer Research**



L-R, Pediatric Oncologist, Dr. Angela Sievert, Dr. Peter C. Phillips, Donna & Stan Edwards, and Beth Harper Briglia, Chester County Community Foundation

**West Chester, PA, May 30, 2012**— On April 20, Donna and Stanley Edwards presented a \$5,000 grant check to Pediatric Oncologists, Drs. Peter C. Phillips and Angela Sievert, at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (C.H.O.P.), to fund the Hospital's childhood brain cancer research projects. The grant represented a portion of the proceeds raised by Stanley's Dream Memorial Scholarship in honor of their son, Stanley Austin Edwards who passed away from brain cancer in 2002. Stanley's primary doctor at C.H.O.P. was Dr. Jean B. Belasco. The grant represented the sixth gift to C.H.O.P. in an ongoing effort to fund research to find a cure for brain cancer. The Stanley's Dream Foundation also awards scholarships each year to graduating Chester County high school students in honor of their son. To date, nineteen such scholarships totaling almost \$20,000 have been awarded in Stanley's memory.

Stanley Austin Edwards was a gifted and devoted student whose dream was to one day attend Notre Dame University. He was also a promising athlete, excelling in basketball, football, and golf. Stan was diagnosed with brain cancer at 12 years old while in the 7<sup>th</sup>

grade. Donna notes “After surgery to remove the tumor, Stan developed learning disabilities, due to the tumor’s location, as well as paralysis in his right arm, preventing him from participating in the many sports that he so loved. Nevertheless, he continued to focus on his education, determined to one day attend college.” Stan’s dream to pursue higher education was not to be, for he passed away at age 14 while a freshman at Henderson High School in West Chester.

Donna continues, “Stan never complained during his courageous battle with this disease. Although his cancer had returned and the prognosis was grim, he was determined that he would beat the odds and fulfill his dream. Prior to his death, he displayed strength, courage, and dignity far beyond his years.” It is Stan’s parent’s desire that his legacy be kept alive through awarding grants and scholarships in his name to further brain cancer research and to assist students in attaining Stanley’s dream.

Each year, Stanley’s Dream Fund holds fundraisers to support brain cancer research and the Stanley Austin Edwards Memorial Scholarship. In 2012, the fourth annual Stanley’s Dream Run was held on New Year’s Day, and plans for a gala and golf tournament are scheduled for August 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>. All proceeds benefit the STANLEY’S DREAM FUND managed by the Chester County Community Foundation.

The Foundation helps families and businesses become involved in charitable giving for the long run, by encouraging legacy gifts and increasing awareness of the needs and issues facing Chester County. The Community Foundation holds over 340 funds in trust and annually awards \$1.8 million in grants and scholarships. [www.chescocf.org](http://www.chescocf.org).

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