

North Carolina Schools Help Fight Cystic Fibrosis through CureFinders *CFF Invites Other Schools to Participate in CureFinders, a Science Education Focused Fundraising Program*

December 17, 2008

(Raleigh, NC) — The North Carolina Chapter of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation (CFF) announced today that four local schools have helped the organization raise \$5,544 during its fall CureFinders program. Participating schools included Easley Elementary, North Forest Pines Elementary, Forest Pines Elementary, and Saint Mary's School. CureFinders is the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation's science education focused fundraising program for students, K-12. This program is essential to the Foundation's future because it encourages good health behavior while examining the practical application of science in life saving and innovative research as done by the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

Additional schools are invited to join the fight against Cystic Fibrosis by participating in the spring program, planned for late February and early March. The program provides students with opportunity for team building and peer-to-peer leadership. CureFinders student leaders gain confidence in important life skills, such as public speaking, leadership, committee organization, and goal realization. Our student leaders work with their local business partners and together they create great results for their community. CureFinders also offer numerous educational opportunities to teachers and administrators, allowing them to bring education to life with real world examples of advancement in research and scientific progress. CureFinders schools focus lessons on philanthropic responsibility and the importance working as a team to help others.

A new development in the CureFinders program is the CureFinders Student Youth Board, comprised of ten high school and middle school students from both Wake and Durham counties. The Student Youth Board develops leadership skills while teaching the responsibilities of being part of a real, working volunteer board. The CureFinders program presents a great opportunity for board members to lead their communities toward success while learning vital life skills. These student board members are leaders in their communities and will someday be the leaders of the Foundation and its future. Opportunities for students and mentors to join the Student Youth Board are available.

"CureFinders is a great example of how kids learn many skills that they need to apply in the classroom and in the workplace while learning how to support their communities," explained Kay James, Executive Director, North Carolina Chapter of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. "This program gives kids the opportunity to learn about cystic fibrosis and how important science education is in developing the science to find the cure and care for CF and other life threatening diseases."

Business sponsorships and other contribution opportunities for CureFinders are available at a number of different levels. CFF is also asking for support from incentive sponsors to reward outstanding teachers and schools for their participation.

For more information on how you, your school, or your company can become part of CureFinders, please contact Megan Cole at mcole@cff.org or 919-845-2155.

About The Cystic Fibrosis Foundation

The Cystic Fibrosis Foundation is the leading organization in the United States devoted to curing and controlling cystic fibrosis. The Foundation has more than 80 chapters and branch offices throughout the country and supports and accredits a nationwide network of 115 care centers. Virtually every approved CF drug available today was made possible because of Foundation support.

The mission of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, a **nonprofit** donor-supported organization, is to assure the development of the means to cure and control cystic fibrosis and to improve the quality of life for those with the disease. The Foundation is the leading organization in the United States devoted to cystic fibrosis. It funds and accredits more than 115 **CF care centers**, 95 adult care programs and 50 affiliate programs, and has 80 **chapters and branch offices** nationwide.

The Cystic Fibrosis Foundation has been recognized as one of the most efficient organizations of its kind with nearly 90 percent of every dollar of revenue being available to fund cystic fibrosis research, care and education programs.

In fact, **Charity Navigator**, the country's largest independent evaluator of charities, has given the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation its coveted four-star rating for sound fiscal management. The National Institutes of Health and many prominent publications, including **Forbes** and **USAToday**, have heralded our innovative business model, which fuels drug discovery and development programs. To learn more about the North Carolina Chapter of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, please visit <http://www.cff.org/Chapters/carolinas/>.