FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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THIRD ANNUAL CAPE FEAR TEDDY BEAR BALL TO FILL THE AIR WITH LOVE FOR AREA CHILDREN THIS VALENTINE'S SEASON

WILMINGTON, N.C.- Duke Children's Hospital & Health Center will hold its third annual Cape Fear Teddy Bear Ball Friday, February 18, 2005 at the Hilton Wilmington Riverside in Wilmington, N.C. Come join us for an exciting evening of dining, dancing and shopping at the silent and live auctions.

Over 1,500 children from New Hanover and surrounding counties are cared for at Duke Children's each year making the Teddy Bear Ball not only a fun and worthwhile event but a necessary part of the fundraising efforts of Duke Children's Miracle Network.

With fabulous items such as jewelry, art, golf and ski packages, Coach K-signed items and more up for bid, you are certain to leave with a feeling of joy knowing you have contributed to such a worthy cause. The silent action along with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres begins at 6:00 p.m., followed by a buffet dinner and live auction from 7:30 to 9:00. The evening tops off with dancing to music of Mirage.

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Tickets for attending this fantastic event start at $150 per couple with Granddaddy Bear sponsorship at $5,000. Proceeds from the Cape Fear Teddy Bear Ball provide necessary funding to support the area's sickest and most seriously injured children. For more information regarding the Teddy Bear Ball contact Janis Netherland at (910) 793-8466 or by email at jnetherland@ec.rr.com.

About Duke Children's Hospital & Health Center:

Duke Children's Hospital & Health Center, located in Durham, N.C. is nationally ranked among the best in pediatric health care programs. Care for children in our number one priority, from routine check-ups and immunizations to the treatment of life-threatening injuries and illnesses. At Duke Children's, we provide hope and the most-advanced health care available. We offer innovative procedures including stem cell and bone marrow transplants as well as a variety of support services for our patients and their families. For more information please visit **www.dukechildrens.org.**

About Duke Children's Miracle Network:

The Duke Children's Miracle Network raises unrestricted funds for Duke Children's Hospital & Health Center through Children's Miracle Network. These fund help support research, clinical care, advocacy and family support programs to help children and families heal both physically and emotionally.

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At Duke Children's we treat 164,000 patients each year and conduct research that touches millions of lives worldwide.

Children's Miracle Network is an alliance of premier children's hospitals across America. The non-profit organization is dedicated to helping kids by raising funds for 170 children's hospitals. Each year CMN hospitals provide the finest care, research and community outreach to help millions of children with diseases and injuries of every kind.

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