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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**1<sup>ST</sup> Annual TTTS Race for Hope Coming to Charlotte:  
Opening Arms and Celebrating Life**

**Charlotte, NC.** — On Saturday, November 18, 2006, a local mother will host the TTTS Race for Hope welcoming over 500 runners, walkers and others affected by Twin-to-Twin Transfusion Syndrome (TTTS). The race is a 5k Run/Walk benefiting TTTS, a potentially life-threatening condition that can occur during multiple birth pregnancies.

“The event is going to be such a celebration of life for anyone who has ever been affected by TTTS. I’ve had tremendous community support, especially from family and friends, and I’m excited to contribute to such a worthy cause,” said Charlotte Race Director and Fetal Hope Foundation Director, Talitha McGuinness

Twin-to-Twin Transfusion Syndrome (TTTS) is a potentially life-threatening condition in pregnancy that exists when blood passes disproportionately between multiples with a shared placenta. TTTS can strike at any time in a pregnancy with twins or multiples that share a placenta. With TTTS, the babies share blood vessels, which cause one baby to receive an overflow of blood and nutrients while the other receives little to none. Both babies are at risk from either heart failure or anemia. **Today 15 babies will die from TTTS**, which is twice the amount of deaths in one day as SIDS. There are no guarantees with any available treatment but no treatment at all is almost always a guarantee of loss.

The event will be held at Charlotte’s Freedom Park where participants will enjoy the race, along with one of the largest post-race expos and family friendly festival. Sponsors such as Diamond Springs, Pethel’s Used Cars, Charlotte Mothers of Multiples and even Santa will participate at the sponsor expo. For more information, please contact Talitha McGuinness at (980) 721-5799.

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