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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



NOMOTC Shows Support For National TTTTS Race For Hope Sunday, November 13, 2005 in Denver, Colorado

(October 3, 2005 – Fort Collins, Colorado) The National Organization of Mothers of Twins Clubs, Inc. (NOMOTC), is a national support organization founded in 1960 and comprised of local chapters and individual members primarily concerned with education and research pertaining to multiple birth children and serving over 24,500 members, over 400 clubs in 44 states across the country. NOMOTC is proud to announce support for the **2nd Annual Littleton Adventist Hospital's Twin-To-Twin-Transfusion-Syndrome (TTTS) Race For Hope** scheduled for **Sunday, November 13, 2005 in Denver, Colorado**. NOMOTC president, Rebecca Moskwinski, M.D., from South Bend, Indiana will be flying to Colorado to participate and show support for this national event designed to spread awareness and to restore hope for families dealing with this disease. "We are extremely excited to show our support and I am honored to represent NOMOTC for this premier national TTTTS event," says Dr. Moskwinski, president of NOMOTC and a Staff Physician at the University of Notre Dame handling General Family Practice, Sports Medicine and Employee Health patients. "I also look forward to visiting with many of our member clubs across Colorado as well as networking with the volunteers serving in the Colorado Parents of Multiples, the newly expanded state organization for parents of multiples."

Many have never even heard of Twin-to-Twin Transfusion Syndrome (TTTS). 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 causes 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. There are no guarantees with any available treatment, but no treatment is almost always a guarantee of loss. Statistics indicate that 5,500 of 8,500 unborn babies affected by TTTS are lost each year. Today 15 babies lost their lives due to TTTS.

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Rarely do both babies survive and 85% of the time the survivors are faced with life-long challenges. “Our mission for the TTTS Race for Hope is to spread awareness and to restore hope,” says event organizer and founder Lonnie Somers, who with his wife, Michelle, were fortunate to fall into the statistical minority. “We underwent in-utero surgery 9 days after diagnosis. For us, the surgery was a success and 3 months and 3 days after surgery two healthy girls were born,” adds Somers. Statistics prove this is not always the case. Dr. Ruben Quintero in Tampa, Florida at the Florida Institute for Fetal Diagnosis and Therapy (FIFDiT) performed the surgery. He is one of only a very few doctors that perform this surgery in the U.S. Dr. Quintero and the FIFDiT have been featured on *Good Morning America*, *Discovery Channel*, *CBS Evening News* and numerous print media.

All funds raised by the event will be used for support, awareness and research for those affected and those that are saving these precious lives. The Littleton Adventist TTTS Race for Hope will be held at Washington Park on Sunday, November 13, 2005. This year’s event includes a 5k run/walk, a kid’s fun run, a National Pledge Drive and a Sponsor Expo. The public can also hear NOMOTC president, Dr. Moskwinski briefly speak to the participants and also see ‘double’ when many parents of multiples across Colorado come out to support this event with their twins and triplets in strollers, wagons and walking together for this important cause. Additionally there will be kids’ activities such as face painting, air jumpers, and much more. Many of the sponsors/supporters will be giving away great prizes and free samples. To learn more about the upcoming TTTS Race for Hope or to register to participate visit the event website at www.tttsraceforhope.org. For more information about the National Organization of Mothers of Twins Clubs, Inc. and their mission visit their award winning website at www.nomotc.org or email nomotc@aol.com.

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