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Bake a Difference This February

***Children's Cardiomyopathy Foundation Promotes Community-Based Initiative
to Raise Research Funds for Chronic Heart Disease***

Tenafly, NJ – February 1, 2019 – During National Heart Month, the Children's Cardiomyopathy Foundation (CCF), is encouraging people to “bake a difference” for children with cardiomyopathy by hosting community-based bake sales to raise funds for research.

Cardiomyopathy is a chronic and potentially life-threatening heart disease that affects how the heart muscle pumps blood through the body. Since cardiomyopathy was first recognized in 1950, there have been few medical breakthroughs in understanding this complex heart disease that is the leading cause of heart transplants in children.

Properly diagnosing and treating children with cardiomyopathy remains a priority for CCF — a national organization founded by Lisa Yue, a mother who lost two young children to the disease. She formed CCF in 2002 to increase research, education, awareness and advocacy, and to support affected families.

“Bake for a Cure is a fun event that brings people together during National Heart Month. It helps to educate the community about pediatric cardiomyopathy and the need for more research,” said Yue. Through CCF's research grant program, CCF has funded more than 54 research studies, which has contributed 155 medical publications and presentations that guide physicians in caring for children with cardiomyopathy.

The DiCecca family of Stoneham, Massachusetts has hosted a bake sale for three years running in honor of their daughter, Aria, who has cardiomyopathy.

“Bake for A Cure is so important for our heart warriors — our little heroes,” said Lisa DiCecca, mom of six-year-old Aria. “More research is needed so that Aria and other children like her can look forward to long, healthy lives without fear.”

Visit CCF online at www.childrenscardiomyopathy.org to learn more about the Bake for a Cure initiative.

The Children's Cardiomyopathy Foundation (CCF) is a national organization focused on finding causes and cures for all forms of pediatric cardiomyopathy, the leading cause of heart transplants and sudden cardiac arrest in children. CCF started in 2002 with one family's determination to call attention to a poorly understood heart disease and to take action on the lack of medical progress and public awareness. Since then, CCF has grown into a global community of families, physicians, and scientists raising more than \$13 million for research and education initiatives, family support, and awareness and advocacy measures.

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