



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Jennifer Perry
Dir. of Public Relations and Mktg
(928) 284-2287
jperry@campsoaringeagle.org

Camp Soaring Eagle Announces \$150,000 Grant from The Wachovia Foundation to Fund Camp for Critically Ill Children

Sedona (September 2008) – Camp Soaring Eagle today announced a \$150,000 donation from The Wachovia Foundation.

Thanks to the generous support of The Wachovia Foundation, over 350,000 children currently suffering from critical illnesses in the southwest are now one step closer to discovering the healing power of laughter. [Camp Soaring Eagle](#), currently under construction in Sedona, Arizona will be a camp for children aged 7 - 17 with chronic and life-threatening conditions. Children who typically cannot participate in customary kid's activities due to their illness will now have the opportunity to attend camp just like other children. Camp Soaring Eagle, is completely free of charge to the campers and their families and has a comprehensive medical facility on-site which can adapt weekly to meet the specific medical needs of the campers. Campers will come from Arizona, New Mexico, Nevada and Utah.

“As Founder of Camp Soaring Eagle, I am more than pleased to announce that Wachovia has joined us on the “Council of Eagles”, stated Max James, Founder of Camp Soaring Eagle. “Their three year commitment totaling, \$150,000 is a great boost to this magnificent camp for chronically ill children. The camp will open in the summer of 2009, thanks to the contributions of individuals, associations, and companies that have the heart like Wachovia. This brings us that much closer to providing a place where these unfortunate children can let their dreams soar, while experiencing the healing power of laughter.”

“At Wachovia, we believe a company's true achievement is reflected in the strength of the communities it calls home. We want every Wachovia community to be stronger because we are there,” said Bill Morgan, Wachovia's Arizona Regional President. “The Wachovia Foundation is proud to support Camp Soaring Eagle, which will help the region's critically ill children enjoy an experience their illnesses have forced them to forgo—until now. For future campers, who have already grown up far too soon, and under circumstances most of us cannot comprehend, Camp Soaring Eagle will be a place where kids can just be kids.”

Camp Soaring Eagle is following the highest standards in medically based camping and aspires to be a member of the Association of Hole in the Wall Camps. Paul Newman founded the original Hole in the Wall Gang Camp in 1988. This original idea has grown into an international Association. Today, the Association of Hole in the Wall Camps is the world's largest family of camps for children with life-threatening conditions. Nearly 100,000 seriously ill children from 40 states and 31 countries have attended camps free of charge thanks to the charitable donations from thousands of individuals, corporations and foundations. Being a part of such a well-established and acclaimed network of camps will provide Camp Soaring Eagle with the experience, knowledge and support to operate at the highest level of excellence.

The mission of The Wachovia Foundation is to build strong and vibrant communities, improve the quality of life, and make a positive difference. The Wachovia Foundation is a private foundation that provides grants to eligible 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organizations. In 2007, Wachovia and its foundations contributed \$129 million to fund its primary focus areas: Education, Community Development, Health and Human Services and Arts and Culture. In addition, Wachovia's employees volunteered more than 703,000 hours in 2007 for the causes that matter the most to them. Wachovia gives all employees four paid hours per month—the equivalent of forty-eight paid hours a year—to volunteer.

Camp Soaring Eagle is very grateful for the generous contribution made by The Wachovia Foundation. This contribution will help Camp Soaring Eagle welcome and enrich the lives of its first campers next summer. For more information about Camp Soaring Eagle, visit www.campsoaringeagle.org or contact Jennifer Perry, Director of Public Relations and Marketing, Camp Soaring Eagle 928-284-2287, jperry@campsoaringeagle.org.

###