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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MOMS Club Funding Fun in the Hospital

WASHINGTON, DC (May 23, 2011)- *"When you have a daughter with cancer, you never think in a million years that your family could have fun. Starlight [Children's Foundation™] MidAtlantic brought fun to our lives during the darkest time,"* said a Starlight MidAtlantic dad. The MOMS Club of Frederick North is partnering with Starlight MidAtlantic to help place a *Fun Center* in Frederick Memorial Hospital! Through the Club's generous donation, Frederick Memorial Hospital is one step closer to receiving a *Fun Center™*.

MOMS Club is an international nonprofit organization for stay-at-home moms with a focus on support, family activities, and community service involving moms and children in need. The MOMS Club of Frederick North was founded in January of 2002 and today has 55 members with 125 children.

When the MOMS Club of Frederick North was picking charities to donate leftover funds to that support moms and children, member Jennifer Leach nominated Starlight Children's Foundation MidAtlantic, *"While in college I was an intern at Starlight in New York City for three years and later volunteered for Starlight in DC, so I know the wonderful work that they do for children with severe illnesses. Now that I've become a Mom myself, their work is even more meaningful to me and I am so very happy to be able to spread the word about Starlight and make a donation on behalf of the MOMS Club of Frederick North."*

The MOMS Club of Frederick decided to put their money towards a *Fun Center*, which is a mobile entertainment unit for pediatric patients. A *Fun Center* is equipped with a Sharp AQUOS™ LCD television, DVD player, and Nintendo Wii™ gaming system. Each *Fun Center* unit provides 4,870 children with 43,800 hours of distraction and entertainment each year in the emergency room, in isolation, during a treatment, or at the bedside.

A *Fun Center* not only provides the opportunity to play video games and help children feel like a normal kid again, it also distracts from pain, encourages socialization, and offers a fun diversion during the long and lonely hours spent in the hospital. The *Fun Center* will be placed in Frederick Memorial Hospital, which has been on the waiting list for a *Fun Center* since 2008.

Starlight MidAtlantic is a local chapter of the international organization whose mission is to brighten the lives of seriously ill children in the hospital, in the community, and on the Web. In 2010, Starlight MidAtlantic provided a record 2 million hours of entertainment to children in 154 hospitals in six states. Starlight's programs such as *Fun Centers* restore some of the laughter and happiness that childhood illness takes away.

For more information: <http://www.momsclubfredericknorth.com/>
<http://www.starlight-midatlantic.org/>

About Starlight Children's Foundation™ MidAtlantic:

Since 1999, Starlight Children's Foundation MidAtlantic has been helping seriously ill children and their families cope with their pain, fear and isolation through entertainment, education and family activities. Last year, Starlight MidAtlantic provided over 2 million hours of entertainment in the hospital, in the community and on the Web, for 220,000 children and their families in the District of Columbia, Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia. To learn more visit www.starlight-midatlantic.org