

In partnership with the SIU School of Medicine

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## WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL EVENT TO BENEFIT PEDIATRIC REHABILITATION PEER SUPPORT GROUP

SPRINGFIELD – St. John's Children's Hospital is hosting a Wheelchair Basketball Clinic and Benefit on Friday, April 12, at the Lincoln Land Community College Cass Gymnasium. The event will support St. John's PALS (Promoting Abilities and Life Skills) program which connects kids in physical, occupational, and speech therapy with each other outside of the hospital.

There will also be a 50/50 raffle and silent auction. The event is free, and donations are accepted. Tipoff will be at 7 p.m. at Cass Gym at Lincoln Land Community College featuring athletes from the University of Illinois Wheelchair basketball team and "celebrity" players from the Springfield community.

Pre-game activities include:

- Wheelchair basketball clinic for children of all abilities
- Face painting/tattoos
- AmTryke delivery
- Other fun games for kids

"It is not always easy for kids with disabilities to make friends and feel accepted for who they are. The P.A.L.S. program gives these kids and their parents a social network and resources they need to meet these daily challenges," said Julie Green, OT, with St. John's Children's Hospital pediatric rehabilitation department.

For more information about the PALS program or St. John's Children's Hospital, please visit us at www.sjchildrens.org.

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