



## **News Assignment Request Children's National Medical Center**

### **Unique Courage Lion Program Helps the Hospitalized Children**

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**Date of Event:**

Friday, October 27, 2006

**Time:**

2:00 pm

**Where:**

Children's National Medical Center  
111 Michigan Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20010

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**What:**

A local non-profit organization dedicated to helping critically ill, traumatized and abused children will present Courage Lions to young patients at the Children's National Medical Center. The stuffed lions, which come with a companion book and music CD, are designed to help children of various ages deal with stress of illness. The book author and illustrator, musicians and the creators of the program will be at the event.

Courage Lions provide children with a creative way of communicating with medical providers, offering hope and bolstering courage. A Courage Lion can serve as a child's partner, helping him or her express their fears and concerns about the illness, injury or potential treatment. The lion's arms and legs are long enough to reach any part of its body so that a child can show where he or she is hurting.

This is one of the most progressive therapeutic charitable programs for children in the nation. The Courage Lion Program has realized a dynamic growth since its commencement 90 days ago. As it is now poised to meet the needs of 10,000 children.

Serious illness can cause feeling of uncertainty and fear in people of all ages but those feelings can be magnified in children. Especially the developmentally disabled. It is important to foster an atmosphere of compassion, comfort and understanding for each child. The Courage Lions will help significantly in accomplishing that objective.

Volunteers of Courage Unlimited Corporation, Glyndon, MD has worked diligently with local child life experts to develop the lions, the book and audio book/music CD. They hope to distribute 28,000 of them to more than 20 hospitals, health care facilities and family support organization of the United States Military within the next year. The program is funded entirely by donations from corporate, business sponsors, community organizations and countless individuals through the community.

**Contact:**

Media are invited to this exciting launch but are ask to **contact Mr. John Ramming, President at 410-916-5700 in advance.**

Thank you