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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Help make a Child's Wish Come True: Seeking Local Make-A-Wish® Volunteers

KENAI—Eleven-year-old Marcus, like many young boys, is bursting with energy. His affinity for sports, basketball in particular, is well known by his family and if anyone is looking for him they can most likely catch him outside shooting hoops. It is hard to believe that just a few years ago he was enduring grueling treatments at Seattle Children's Hospital for a rare form of leukemia.

In 2009, Marcus was offered an once-in-a-lifetime opportunity by the Make-A-Wish Foundation® of Alaska & Washington, a nonprofit organization that grants wishes to children with life-threatening medical conditions. After being asked what he would wish for, Marcus, of course, chose something sports-related: his very own basketball court. With the assistance of the Make-A-Wish community and some hard-working local volunteers, Marcus' wish was realized.

Today, Marcus is doing well, though he still goes in for monthly checkups, regular heart exams and bone marrow aspirations. Having his own basketball court allows him a means of burning off any worry or stress he may have over his health. One of Marcus' favorite pastimes is to invite friends over to face off on the basketball court. According to his mom, he's always up for a good challenge!

The Make-A-Wish Foundation needs your help to continue making wishes like Marcus' come true. An upcoming volunteer training for Make-A-Wish will be held the evening of May 26 **in Kenai**, exact location TBD. For more information and/or to register, please contact Juli at juli@nwwishes.org or 800.304.9474.

ABOUT MAKE-A-WISH FOUNDATION OF ALASKA & WASHINGTON:

*Celebrating 25 years of granting wishes to children with life-threatening medical conditions, the Make-A-Wish Foundation® of Alaska & Washington has brought hope, strength and joy to more than 4,500 local children through its wish granting process. This year, the local chapter will grant 332 wishes. For more information about the local chapter and how you can **share the power of a wish®** please call 877-510-WISH or visit www.northwestwishes.org.*

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