



****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****

October 21, 2019

Who: Heidt Center of Excellence By The Children's Home

What: Autism services students' flag football game (Oct. 23) and bocce tournament (Oct. 26)

Where: Flag Football: The Children's Home campus, 5050 Madison Road. Bocce Tournament: The Homan Family Gymnasium, Heidt Center of Excellence, 4550 Red Bank Expressway, Cincinnati, OH

When: Flag Football – Oct 23, 6 p.m.

Bocce Ball Tournament – Oct. 26, 8 a.m.

Why: It's a tradition nearly as old as our country where schools everywhere field athletic teams during the fall. But, not every school has student athletes on the autism spectrum. But that's just who the Heidt Center of Excellence student athletes are.

“The benefits of school sanctioned sports are many and constructive,” said Melissa Grondin, autism services associate principal and one of the Heidt Center's coaches. “Our kids, like any other middle or high school student, benefit from learning to work as a team while developing work ethics by attending practice and receiving constructive critiques from their coaches.”

How: The flag football game is a Hamilton County Special Olympics sanctioned event and the Heidt Center Jaguars will be taking on the Hamilton Country Dream Warriors.

The Bocce Ball tournament is a Hamilton County Special Olympics sanctioned event and will feature athletes with a variety of special needs from throughout the Greater Cincinnati area.

Media: The Heidt Center of Excellence staff and some of the student athletes will be available for comment during both events. Media representatives may contact Dr. Steven Wilson, The Children's Home communications director, for coordination and assistance.

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