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Monday, October 29, 2007

Local charity to raise money for pediatric brain tumor cure

Contributed By Amber Ellis | Cincinnati Enquirer

A local charity, created by parents who lost their pre-adolescent son to brain cancer, will host a fundraiser this weekend to help further pediatric brain tumor research.

The second annual, "Play Ball Dinner and Auction," will be held at 7 p.m., Saturday at the Manor House, 7440 Mason-Montgomery Road, in Mason. Nearly 200 people are expected to attend.

One year after being diagnosed with diffuse intrinsic pontine glioma, a form of brain cancer, Jeffrey Hayden died. The West Chester boy was 12. Frustrated by the slow pace of new research findings and pediatric cancer resources, his parents, Tim and Cindy Hayden, created a foundation in their son's name.

Tickets cost \$100 and include dinner and drinks. Several local businesses, including Yelton's Fine Jewelry, Wellington Orthopaedic & Sports Medicine, and Grant Thornton, provided items for the silent and live auctions.

Funds raised by the Jeffrey Thomas Hayden Foundation will go toward a fellowship fund for pediatric brain tumor research at Ohio State University. Last year, attendees donated \$50,000.

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Shortly after Jeffrey Hayden's death, his parents started a charity in his name. Jeffrey (pictured above) died in 2004. He was 12. (Provided photo)

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