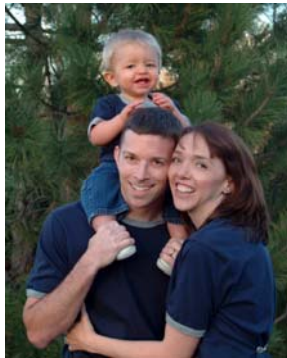




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TTTS Race for Hope Announces 2006 Ambassador Family



Denver — A family from Aurora, Colorado been chosen by the Fetal Hope Foundation & TTTS Race for Hope to be the 2006 TTTS Race for Hope Ambassador Family. The 3rd Annual Littleton Adventist Hospital TTTS Race for Hope will be held at Washington Park on Sunday, November 12th. This year's event includes a 5k run/walk, a kid's fun run, a Kids Festival and a Sponsor Expo.

Tammy and Josh Smith are the parents of twins, but they only get to watch one of their sons, Zachary, grow up. Their twin pregnancy was anything but normal. At 16 weeks they were diagnosed with TTTS, Twin to Twin Transfusion Syndrome. After several attempts at trying to save the pregnancy, the Smith's were faced with the decision to give up one son to save the other. After multiple in-utero procedures, a trip to San Francisco and 8 weeks of bedrest in a hospital bed, Nicholas was delivered, stillborn, and Zachary was delivered to begin a second fight for his life. As a direct result of the transfusion, he underwent 2 cardiac procedures in his first few weeks of life. Only to be followed by open heart surgery at 8 weeks. Today, Zachary is a healthy 18 month-old, is as cute as a button and a fireball of energy. At a glance of this loving, cheerful family, you would never guess the heartache and loss they have suffered. Everyday the Smiths pay tribute to both of their boys; Tammy is an active board member with the Fetal Hope Foundation and an event coordinator for the Denver TTTS Race for Hope.

Twin-to-Twin Transfusion Syndrome (TTTS) can strike at any time in a pregnancy with twins or multiples that share a placenta. With TTTS the babies share blood vessels, which cause one baby to receive an overflow of blood and nutrients while the other receives little to none. Both babies are at risk from either heart failure or anemia. There are no guarantees with any available treatment but no treatment is almost always a guarantee of loss.

TTTS kills twice as many babies as SIDS (Sudden Infant Death Syndrome); yet most of the population has never heard of TTTS. Sadly that means today 15 babies died from TTTS.

The mission of the Fetal Hope Foundation and its TTTS Race for Hope is to provide support, provide information, fund research, increase awareness and be an outlet for leading medical

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information pertaining to fetal distresses and syndromes. They are all about arming families with information to save their baby's lives.

Aligned with some of the world's leading fetal medicine centers, Fetal Hope has been organized to provide accurate and factual information for families dealing with syndromes such as Twin-to-Twin Transfusion Syndrome ([TTTS](#)), Acardiac Twinning (TRAP sequence), Amniotic Band Syndrome (ABS) and Fetal Lower Urinary Tract Obstruction. The Fetal Hope Foundation is about HOPE. No family should ever be left without hope. All proceeds will benefit the Fetal Hope Foundation.

One thousand plus (1,000+) participants and supporters are anticipated for this amazing and fun filled event. Many local and national businesses will be on hand to participate in a fun filled day including title sponsor Littleton Adventist Hospital, Panera Bread, Naked Juice, Back in Shape, Twins Magazine, Rocky Mountain Sports Magazine, Colorado Runners Magazine, Frontier Airlines, Olive Garden, and others. Additionally there will be kids' activities such as face painting, air jumpers, carnival games, a special visit by Ronald McDonald and more. Many of the sponsors/supporters will be giving away great prizes and free samples.

The founders of the Fetal Hope Foundation and TTTS Race for Hope have two beautiful three year old girls who were saved from TTTS by ground breaking in-utero fetal surgery. Their efforts have lead to the launch of the Fetal Hope Foundation and to the newly national TTTS Race for Hope series with events slated in Denver, Charlotte, Los Angeles, Seattle, Tampa and Houston

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