

Fetal Hope Foundation  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**LOCAL FATHER AND FAMILY BUSINESS JOIN TO HOST KIRKLAND  
EVERGREEN HEALTHCARE'S TTTS RACE FOR HOPE**

**Kirkland, WA** – What does Kirkland, WA have in common with Denver, CO and Charlotte, NC? Not much, except for the fact that it also hosts the Fetal Hope Foundations' National Race Series, the TTTS Race for Hope. The second annual Kirkland Evergreen Healthcare's TTTS Race for Hope will take place at Marina Park on Sunday, September 28, and will be presented by Portland Bolt Company. The event will consist of a 5K Run/Walk, a Kids Fun Run, the NOMOTC Family Festival, and a Sponsor Expo.

Like each of the races, the Kirkland race is close to home for local race director, Corey Wilson. During a routine ultrasound 25 weeks into their pregnancy, Corey and his wife learned that one of their identical twin boys, Callen, had a very large amount of fluid in his abdomen and around his organs. The Wilson's learned that he had Stage 4 hydrops, the second most severe of cases, which is an accumulation of excess amniotic fluid and blood volume. At a later visit, the Wilson's twins were diagnosed with Twin-to-Twin Transfusion Syndrome, or TTTS. TTTS occurs in monochorionic pregnancies, where babies share blood vessels across the placenta. In essence, one baby receives too little blood flow and nutrition, while the other receives too much. Without treatment, cases are almost always 100% detrimental.

After learning of an in utero procedure that could be performed, the Wilson's met with Dr. Robert Ball at the University of California San Francisco. Although they learned they were not candidates for the laser surgery, they were introduced to the Fetal Hope Foundation, a national non-profit whose mission is to provide support, provide information, fund research, increase awareness and be an outlet for leading medical information pertaining to fetal distresses and syndromes.

"All I could think was why I had not heard of the Fetal Hope Foundation before now. Shouldn't the doctors have referred us to them from the beginning? My wife and I found great relief in knowing that we were not the only ones going through this, and that there were people to talk to and answer questions," said Corey Wilson, Kirkland Race Director and Member of Fetal Hope's Board of Directors.

After weeks of hospitalized bedrest, Callen and Coleman Wilson were born at 27-weeks gestation, and stayed in the hospital for 5 and 2 ½ months respectively. While Coleman needed to feed and grow, Callen had a severe heart condition at birth and shortly thereafter, began his fight against necrotizing enterocolitis, a gastrointestinal disease that involves infection and inflammation that causes destruction of the intestines.

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Not long after the boys were welcomed home, the Wilson's soon learned of the TTTS Race for Hope in Seattle, and drove the 3 hours with their families to participate in the event that same year.

"Since the birth of our boys, I have had the honor and privilege of becoming the Race Director for the TTTS Race for Hope in Seattle/Kirkland, and a member of Fetal Hope's Board of Directors," said Wilson. "I have witnessed the HOPE that has been provided to families due to Fetal Hope's existence, and the wonderful people that make it successful."

Last year, Portland Bolt & Manufacturing Company donated to the race, and has since joined as Presenting Sponsor of this year's event.

"When our daughter and son-in-law were told their boys had this condition, they were not given much hope. We found however, that "hope" is now seen in the faces of our two wonderful twin grandsons, Callen and Coleman," said Brian Sonnenberg, Chairman, Portland Bolt & Manufacturing Company. "Our main goal is to let people know there is always hope and help, that life is extremely important and that we value it, celebrate it, and that [no one is] alone. Our goal is to be of encouragement."

The event will be held at Kirkland's Marina Park where participants will enjoy the race, along with one of the largest post-race expos and family friendly festivals. Sponsors and vendors will include Bree & Jodie Photography, Massage Envy, Saturn, Coda Coffee, and many others. For more information, please contact Corey Wilson at 503-919-1806.

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*Corey Wilson and his family, along with his twins Callen and Coleman, will be available for interviews prior to and during the event.*