

## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Hospice Cup Launches Online Fundraising for the 2008 Regatta**

[ANNAPOLIS, MD] Since making payments online is far easier and faster than writing and mailing a check, Hospice Cup, Inc. is launching online fundraising for the 2008 Hospice Cup regatta.

Hospice Cup, Inc. will continue to encourage and reward fundraising sailors, crew and local sailing clubs with the annual The Hank Lawton Award (sponsored by Hospice of the Chesapeake) for the crew raising the most money; and the Club Fundraising Award (sponsored by Chuck and Cecilia Thompson) for the sailing club raising the most money as a group.

In addition to sailors, volunteer caregivers and those who have been touched by hospice care are also being encouraged to create a personal online fundraising page in memory of a loved one. Each page can contain a photo and personal story about supporting Hospice Cup.

The Hospice Cup XXVII start page is located at <http://www.firstgiving.com/hospicecup> and can also be accessed through the organization's web site.

Hospice Cup funds help to pay the expenses not covered by Medicare or private insurance. These dollars enable the hospices to provide skilled compassionate care, comfort and dignity to the terminally ill, their families and friends, regardless of their ability to pay. Hospice enables patients to carry on alert, pain-controlled lives so their last days may be spent in comfort, at home or in home-like settings. Hospice care concentrates on care, not cure. Bereavement counseling and support groups are part of hospice services after the loss of a loved one.

The annual Hospice Cup race is a cooperative effort. It is organized by the all-volunteer Hospice Cup, Inc. (HCI) Board of Directors, an Executive Director, participating area hospices and hundreds of volunteers. The race is managed by Shearwater Sailing Club and assisted by Storm Trysail Club Chesapeake Station.

The 2008 participating hospices include: Hospice of the Chesapeake, Capital Hospice, Montgomery Hospice, and Community Hospices. Each hospice must meet the standards of the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization.

The Hospice Cup race is sanctioned by the Chesapeake Bay Yacht Racing Association (CBYRA) and counts for CBYRA season-long High Point competition. Hospice Cup, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization chartered under the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia, Maryland and the District of Columbia for the purposes of conducting a benefit yacht race and related events. Hospice Cup, Inc. is also a proud member of the National Hospice Regatta Alliance, [www.hospiceregattas.org](http://www.hospiceregattas.org).

Additional information about the race can be found online at the official Hospice Cup web site [www.hospicecup.org](http://www.hospicecup.org).

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