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**Padua Franciscan High School**

# Press Release

## **Padua Students Attempt World Record for Cancer Research**

(PARMA, OH) May 2, 2011: On May 28<sup>th</sup> from Noon to 5:00 p.m., Padua Franciscan High School will hold a community-wide “Kick-It” kickball event to raise money for childhood cancer research. During that same Memorial Day weekend Padua students will also attempt to break the current record for the longest kickball game as part of Padua’s *50 Events for the 50<sup>th</sup>* anniversary year celebration.

The marathon game kicks off on Friday at 3:00 p.m., as students from Padua’s Peer Ministry, Teen Institute, and (Kiwaniis) Key Club set out to achieve the title of the longest continuous kickball game, thus making their mark in the Guinness Book of World Records<sup>®</sup>. Appropriately, the current record stands at 50 hours.

The community event hosted by Padua on Saturday the 29<sup>th</sup> will begin at Noon as various area groups are invited to form teams and play kickball in the school’s effort to raise money to fight childhood cancer.

Funds from sponsorships as well as the sale of refreshments and Kick-It t-shirts will be donated to CureSearch for Children's Cancer, a national non-profit organization which funds the Children's Oncology Group. The Children's Oncology Group is the world's largest, cooperative children's cancer research entity. Money raised supports bench-to-bedside research which includes developing studies, enrolling, and treating patients as well as interpreting the results of the clinical trials.

Padua is currently seeking interested people/groups to form teams to play on Saturday. “We invite the media and general public to come out and watch this great event, and watch history being made by the students of Padua,” says Rosie Cook, Padua’s (Kiwaniis) Key Club advisor and organizer of the three-day event. For more information on Kick-It, go to [www.kick-it.org](http://www.kick-it.org). For info on the Padua event or to download forms visit [http://paduafranciscan.com/clubs/kick\\_it](http://paduafranciscan.com/clubs/kick_it) or call Rosie Cook at 440.845.2444, ext. 149.

-30-

**Kick-It background notes:** Kick-It is a national grassroots organization that raises money for childhood cancer research by inspiring people across the country to play kickball. Kick-It was founded in Northeast Ohio by 10 year old cancer patient Quinn Clarke. Proceeds from Kick-It events are sent to Curesearch to fund research at the Children’s

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Oncology Group. This group of medical professionals treats 90% of children with cancer at over 200 hospitals in the United States.

**School background notes:** Padua Franciscan is located in Parma, Ohio. Padua is the largest private, co-educational secondary school in the Cleveland area. Today, it is one of less than twenty high schools officially chartered by the State of Ohio as college-preparatory. In 2004 and 2006, Padua was named one of the nation's top 50 Catholic secondary schools by the Acton Institute. In 2007 and 2009, an independent study of Ohio Graduation Test results placed Padua Franciscan High School in the top 6 percent of secondary schools in the State.

Padua is accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools as well as the Ohio Catholic Schools Accrediting Agency. An Ohio corporation, Padua was founded in 1961 by the Franciscan Province of the Sacred Heart of Saint Louis, Missouri, and bases its educational philosophy on the life and spirituality of Saint Francis of Assisi. As a school in the Franciscan tradition, its mission is to develop the unique talents of each student, while giving them the skills they need to succeed in college and beyond.

For more information, visit [PaduaFranciscan.com](http://PaduaFranciscan.com)