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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

8th Annual “Friends *Fore* Mercy” Golf Tournament Raises Record \$31,700 for St. James Mercy Foundation

June 21, 2011...Hornell, NY... The 8th annual “Friends *Fore* Mercy golf tournament to benefit St. James Mercy Foundation raised a record \$31,700 at the event held Friday, June 10, at Twin Hickory Golf Club. Thirty-six teams and fifty sponsors participated in this year’s tournament, as well as twenty-three volunteers from the hospital and community. The Foundation provides resources to benefit St. James Mercy Hospital, and all proceeds from the golf tournament will directly benefit Hospital equipment and program needs.

“The ‘Friends *Fore* Mercy’ golf tournament has become something of a community tradition, and this year’s event was a great success,” said Sylvia Bryant, Foundation Executive Director. “As always, the Hornell community delivered a strong show of support for the golf tournament, which is one of our major fundraising events. All of us at St. James Mercy are grateful for such a strong show of support from our sponsors and players, as well as Hospital staff and volunteers.”

This year’s Event sponsors were Steuben Trust Company, St. James Mercy Medical Staff, WYDC-TV Big Fox & WKPQ 105.3 FM, Razak Associates, and The Exigence Group, Inc. Simmons Rockwell offered four hole-in-one prize opportunities, including the chance to win a 2011 Ford Fusion SE. Additional sponsors and prize donors for the event may be found at www.stjamesmercy.org/foundation-golf.

New to this year’s tournament, Alex Fitzpatrick, local Section 5 golf champion, was recruited to hit team drives for a \$10 donation to the Foundation. Additional funds were raised with drawings to win a grill (courtesy of Sears of Hornell), outdoor fire pit, and a 50/50 cash raffle.

With a score of 57, the winning team was comprised of Casey Kellogg, Chad Giglio, Sean Nosky and Michael Bradley. Second place with a score of 59 included team Craig Gelder, Nick Xidis, Eric Muller and Aaron Leguire. Women’s closest to the pin was won by Rosie McCollum and men’s closest to the pin by Randy Rummel. Women’s longest drive was won by Kate Kreger and men’s longest drive by Mike Bradley. Skins winners included teams Kellogg, Mullen, Evans and Forsythe.

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Plans already are underway for the 2012 “Friends Fore Mercy” tournament. For information on next year’s event as it becomes available or to volunteer, contact St. James Mercy Foundation (phone 607-324-8240; email lgardner@sjmh.org), or visit stjamesmercy.org.

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2011 “Friends Fore Mercy” golf participants, including local golf star and volunteer, Alex Fitzpatrick (third from left).