



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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3rd ANNUAL "JESSIE GAMES" TO SERVE UP FAMILY FUN AND SUMMER LUNCHES FOR KIDS THROUGH CATHOLIC CHARITIES

ATTENTION: News Desk, Reporters, Photo, Interview, & Video

WHAT: The 2016 Jessie Games

WHEN: Saturday, July 9, 2016

TIME: 1 - 4:30 pm

LOCATION: Seton-LaSalle High School
1000 McNeilly Road, Pittsburgh (15226)

Visit www.thejessiegames.org for up to minute event details and developments.

PITTSBURGH – The public is invited to attend the third annual "Jessie Games," on Saturday, July 9, 2016 at Seton-LaSalle High School in Pittsburgh.

The Olympic-themed event features family-friendly races and competitions, and a family style summer cookout. The afternoon of family fun also includes a new inflatable obstacle course, bingo, face-painting, a dunk tank, carnival games, dancing to a DJ, and a watermelon-eating contest. Returning this year, are Pittsburgh Pierogis Sauerkraut Saul, Jalepeno Hannah and Cheese Chester.

"The Jessie Games" is named after the late Jessie Egan Smith, a former resident of Mt. Lebanon and Duquesne Heights, who had a zest for life, a competitive spirit, and a compassionate heart for her family, friends and children in need.

The 2016 "Jessie Games" will begin at 1pm with registration and conclude around 4:30 pm following a cookout dinner. All activities will be held at Seton La-Salle High School's Merrick Field, located at 1000 McNeilly Road in Pittsburgh (15226).

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Tickets are \$10 for individuals and Family tickets are \$40. The price includes all food and activities for the day as well as t-shirts for children ages 16 and under. Registrations received by June 19 will be entered into a drawing for two tickets to the July 24 Pirates game.

Proceeds from "The Jessie Games" will benefit Catholic Charities' Summer Lunch and Enrichment Program for Children. In the first two years that the games were held, more than \$55,000 was raised in support of the program.

About "The Jessie Games"

"The Jessie Games" was first held in July 2014 to honor the memory and life of the late Jessie Egan Smith who died in 2013 at the young age of 23. A graduate of Seton-LaSalle High School who attended Duquesne University, Jessie enjoyed sports, especially running, and participated in both the Erie Half Marathon and Pittsburgh Marathon. Her family and friends organized "The Jessie Games" to celebrate Jessie's competitive spirit, compassion for others, and love for children in need.

About Catholic Charities' Summer Lunch Program for Children

Since its inception in 2012, Catholic Charities' Summer Lunch Program has provided free and nutritious meals to children ages 18 and under at the Susan Zubik Welcome Center in downtown Pittsburgh. As it enters its fifth summer of service, the 10-week program will once again provide lunch and creative enrichment activities for children that include a visit from a caricature artist, singing, dancing, and presentations from The Carnegie Library, Pennsylvania Trolley Museum, Animal Rescue League and Heinz History Center. Catholic Charities is very grateful for the significant support it receives through "The Jessie Games" that helps to provide this much-needed outreach to children.

About Catholic Charities

Catholic Charities is the primary social service agency of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, serving all, regardless of religious affiliation, at their time of great need. With offices in Allegheny, Beaver, Butler, Greene, Lawrence and Washington counties, Catholic Charities has been providing programs and services since 1910 that include counseling, Catholic Charities Free Health Care Center, Challenges: Options in Aging Senior Centers and Services (Lawrence County) homeless assistance, pregnancy and parenting support, refugee resettlement, St. Joseph House of Hospitality for homeless men ages 50+, Summer Lunch Program for Children, and Winter Warming Station. For more information about programs and services, visit www.ccpgh.org.

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