



# MEDIA RELEASE

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For immediate release

## Uniting to raise for little Jack's dreams

A fundraising, family fun-day is being held on Sunday April 18, 2010 at the Labrador AFL Football Club to help Joe and Cassy Lenehan raise funds for their 22 month old boy, Jack, who has been diagnosed with Spinal Muscular Atrophy type two (SMA).

Volunteering Gold Coast is providing Face Painter, Joella Moy, to create face-art for the children, or adults, and let their imaginations wonder as they become their own fantasies. Other entertainment will include a local band, jumping castle and laser skirmish.

**What:** Fundraising and Family Day

**When:** Sunday 18 April 2010

**Time:** 10:30am – 12pm

**Where:** Labrador AFL Football Club (Ashton St. adjacent to Brisbane Road)

Volunteering Gold Coast Spokeswoman Liezl Reinecke urges parents to bring their children to the event and make it a day which the family can enjoy while helping a little person with a big heart achieve his dreams.

"As a community organisation, Volunteering Gold Coast is proud to support this event. I especially urge parents to take their children and enjoy a few hours of fun while supporting young Jack improve the struggles he has to face on a daily basis," said Ms. Reinecke.

"It's so great to think that only a few hours of fun for the kids and parents can help improve such a precious life and minimise some of the struggles he faces," she said.

"Just like any other child, Jack will grow up with hopes, dreams and ambitions, so we really want to support Cassy and Joey in breaking down some barriers which young Jack is facing and will be facing as he gets older," Ms. Reinecke said.

SMA prohibits the development of the gross motor skills that most children develop naturally which means all the major muscles that are involved in normal growth are weak and have low tone as a result of degeneration of the nerve which triggers the muscle.

Despite being very intellectually capable, Jack will not be capable of completing simple physical tasks such as crawling, walking, rolling over, lying on his stomach and moving his head upwards which means Jack will need 24 hour care including ongoing daily physiotherapy, monthly hospital checkups and special needs equipment such as a motorised wheelchair, lifting hoist, standing aid, and bathing utilities.

For more information on the event contact June Eadie at Volunteering Gold Coast on 5526 2811 or at [junee@vgcvs.org.au](mailto:junee@vgcvs.org.au) .ENDS

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