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The Hole in the Wall Gang Camp Receives \$50,000 Grant from Positive Tracks

Grant Matches All Funds Raised by Youth and Young Adult Camp Fundraisers

New Haven, Conn. - March 10, 2015 – The Hole in the Wall Gang Camp has received a \$50,000 matching grant from <u>Positive Tracks</u> that doubles dollars raised by youth participants in Team Hole in the Wall and Camp's new Kids for Camp initiative.

"Positive Tracks is proud to play a small role in the incredible work The Hole in the Wall Gang Camp takes on for children and families across the Northeast," said Nini Meyer, president and founder, Positive Tracks. "Young people have an inherent desire to give back, and this partnership enables us to tap into that compassion and help young people leverage their own skills to create positive change. We share the belief that every young person brings something important to the table, whether it's creativity, persistence, or courage."

Last year, youth and young adult fundraisers at Camp raised more than \$80,000 through community events and athletic participation in Team Hole in the Wall. Through Kids for Camp and the partnership with Positive Tracks, that impact is expected to grow significantly in the coming year.

"The generous match provided by our friends at Positive Tracks is the perfect kickstart to the launch of our new Kids for Camp initiative," said Ray Shedd, senior development officer, The Hole in the Wall Gang Camp. "Our shared belief in empowering young people to become active, philanthropic and engaged in their communities will allow the youth fundraising for Camp to maximize their impact."

Kids for Camp is a philanthropic community of school-aged youth who are inspired to pay it forward through community based fundraising activities supporting Camp that launched this year. Participants can create their own event or take on one of Camp's signature events including Stage Night and The Great Pumpkin Challenge. More information can be found at www.holeinthewallgang.org/kidsforcamp.

Positive Tracks is a national, youth-centric nonprofit that empowers young people – aged 23 and under – to get active and give back through the power of sport and volunteerism. Beginning this year, Camp became one of 12 Positive Tracks charity partners. Through the matching grant, every dollar raised through youth-centric fundraising efforts will be doubled. Along with doubling youth dollars, the Positive Tracks program teaches philanthropy and leadership with tools and coordination that help young people organize and promote youth-powered fundraising efforts leading up their athletic effort.

Other organizations are also invited to join Positive Tracks as funding partners to grow the match. For more information, visit www.holeinthewall.org.

About The Hole in the Wall Gang Camp

Founded in 1988 by Paul Newman, <u>The Hole in the Wall Gang Camp</u> is a community dedicated to providing "a different kind of healing" to seriously ill children and their families through a variety of year-round programs. The Camp delivers fun, friendship and a healthy dose of mischief through its signature summer program and weekend sessions at the Camp facility in Ashford, Conn. as well as outreach to hospitals, clinics and communities across the Northeast. All services are free of charge.

<u>Positive Tracks</u> is a national, youth-centric nonprofit that helps Generation Next get active and give back using the power of sport. The Positive Tracks program plugs into charitable athletic events to double dollars and amplify awareness generated by ages 23 and under. Best news is: Every dollar raised by youth and matched by Positive Tracks goes to <u>12 Charity Partners</u> to benefit the global populations and places they serve. The end result sees youth of all demographics mobilized to move and empowered to give back: starting with themselves, starting in their own backyards. Celebrity spokespeople include actor Patrick Dempsey and athletes Ethan Zohn, Travis Roy, and Majka Burhardt.

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