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News Release

## **Kids First Fund Names George Nagobads as Ambassador**

Shorewood, Wisconsin (November 17, 2015) – The Kids First Fund (KFF) names Dr. V. George Nagobads of Edina, Minnesota as an Ambassador for Children. Dr. Nagobads was chosen to serve as Ambassador for Children in honor of his work helping young people, for providing them with a safe environment, and for his passionate and tireless work as an advocate for Latvia.

Dr. Nagobads grew up in Latvia and received his medical degree from Black Forest University in Germany. He moved to the United States in 1951 to begin his surgical residency in Minneapolis at the Swedish Hospital (now the Metropolitan Medical Center). He went on to serve as a team physician for the University of Minnesota's men's ice hockey team, the Gophers, for 34 years. It was during these years that he and his wife welcomed a number of young hockey players into their home, providing them with a stable and nurturing environment.

Simultaneous to his duties with the Gophers, Nagobads was the team physician for the World Hockey Association's Minnesota Fighting Saints from 1973 to 1976, and the National Hockey League's Minnesota North Stars from 1984 to 1992. Additionally, he was named the team physician for five U.S. Olympic Men's Ice Hockey Teams, including the "Miracle on Ice" squad that won the gold medal at the 1980 Olympic Winter Games in Lake Placid, N.Y. Dr. Nagobads has received numerous personal and professional awards for his work in the medical field and the sport of hockey.

"Dr. Nagobads' professional qualifications and personal qualities are in perfect alignment with the objectives of the Kids First Fund," said Kids First Fund President Jay Sorensen. "It is from his humble roots in Latvia and a lifetime of hard work and dedication to helping young people that makes him an outstanding representative for the Kids First Fund. I am so impressed with his life story, it is truly a Hollywood movie in the making!"

Dr. Nagobads shares the role of Ambassador with Dr. Valdis Rande of Roja, Latvia. Mr. Rande was Chief of Pediatric Surgery in Riga and operated Latvia's first center to conduct child abuse interviews. He was an early KFF board member and moved on to become an Ambassador after his professional and board retirements.

**About the Kids First Fund:** The Kids First Fund is a US-based charity that helps abused children in resource-poor areas of the world, by developing programs that provide professional education to identify and treat abused children. The fund has been responsible for creating a family shelter in Latvia that cares for abused women and their children. Every penny donated during this auction and to the Fund will be spent on projects to benefit children. No funds are deducted for salaries or administrative expense.

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