

GREATER CLEVELAND Fisher House BURNING RIVER LACROSSE SHOWCASE

For Immediate Release



2016 Fisher House Showcase *To Benefit The Greater Cleveland Fisher House*

Lakewood, Ohio – August 10, 2016 – Burning River Lacrosse, Hawken School, RPM International, Edwin D. Northrup II Fund, Avalution Consulting, Big Game Capital, Wendy’s, Orlando Baking, Unique Marketing and **Sweat X** are proud to announce that this year’s Fisher House Showcase raised over **\$46,000** for the benefit of the Greater Cleveland Fisher House. This foundation provides a “home-away-from-home” for America’s military families so that they can be with their severely wounded and/or ill family member(s) during those service members’ medical treatments and/or lengthy physical and/or occupational therapy treatments.

This year’s ‘Showcase’ featured a series of games between 4 High School varsity lacrosse teams (Hawken School, NDCL, Olentangy and Solon) and 20 middle school teams (Avon A & B, Chagrin Falls A & B, Hawken A, Hoover A, Jackson A & B, Kenston A & B, Medina A & B, Mentor A & B, Rocky River A & B, Shaker A & B, University School A & B). The teams are paired up on the field to show their talents, have some fun and learn what it’s like to give back to their community. Players are given the opportunity to show their appreciation to our military families and participate in an event to benefit others. The success of this event is made possible by local and national sponsorships, many parent and coaching volunteers and of course the main attraction – the players.

The event also featured Amanda Gilliam, Gold Star widow of Sgt Adam Gilliam, US Army who shared her family’s story and Fisher House experiences with the event participants and attendees. Her husband was killed in the line of duty just last year and she stayed at the Fort Bragg Fisher House.

“We appreciate everyone who came out to support this year’s event and made this a great day for the Greater Cleveland Fisher House,” stated Woody Calleri, Director of BR Lax, “Words alone cannot thank the Northern Ohio lacrosse community for their continued support of this event, the Greater Cleveland Fisher House and our service men and women. We are thankful for their continued support of those in need.”

Event revenues were generated through sponsorships, donations, t-shirt and sweatshirt sales, ticket sales, and concessions sales. The event has raised over \$364,000 in the past 8 years. BR and other Northern Ohio based ‘youth organizations’ have raised over \$550,000 or nearly 20% of the \$3,000,000 need to build the house. BR’s total of \$364,000 makes our organization the single largest fundraiser to the GCFH.

“Where do we even begin in thanking Burning River Lacrosse for yet another outstanding showcase event?”, said Tom Sweeney, Board President for The Greater Cleveland Fisher House Task Force. “This year’s event now brings the total raised for our effort by Burning River Lacrosse to \$364,000, making them the single largest contributor to the Greater Cleveland Fisher House campaign. We are overwhelmed and humbled by this show of support.”

“On behalf of the Greater Cleveland Fisher House, our Burning River Lacrosse family, the participants and our program sponsors we would like to thank everyone who donated, attended or volunteered their time to help make the event a huge success,” stated Calleri “Building on this year’s success, we have already begun planning for 2017 and look to expand the number of teams participating and the amount raised in support of our service men and women.”

For more information on the **2016 Fisher House Showcase** event please visit www.brlax.net/template_2016fisherhouse.cfm

- To find info about the Greater Cleveland Fisher House program, please visit www.greaterclevelandfisherhouse.org
- **For more information on** Burning River Lacrosse please visit (www.brlax.net), Facebook (BRLAX) or contact us at wcalleri@brlax.net or 216-373-5684.
- To find information on our wonderful sponsors please visit http://www.brlax.net/template_fisherhousesponsors.cfm

Fisher House (www.fisherhouse.org) is a unique private-public partnership that supports America's military in their time of need. Because members of the military and their families are stationed worldwide and must often travel great distances for specialized medical care, Fisher House Foundation donates "comfort homes," built on the grounds of major military and VA medical centers. These homes enable family members to be close to a loved one at the most stressful times - during the hospitalization for an unexpected illness, disease, or injury. The Greater Cleveland Fisher House (www.greaterclevelandfisherhouse.org) is specific to Cleveland and will support the families of veterans by providing cost free housing while the veteran receives treatment at the Cleveland VA, Cleveland Clinic, University Hospitals, MetroHealth System or other regional facility. Fisher House is one of America's most highly-rated charities, earning high marks for fiscal responsibility, public accountability and program effectiveness. Fisher House has received the Seal of Excellence from the Independent Charities of America, an A+ grade from Charity Watch and a 4 star rating from Charity Navigator for more than 10 straight years, placing it in the top 1% of charities.

*Burning River Lacrosse was founded in 2005 to provide developmental lacrosse opportunities at all levels (introduction to the game, improvement of skills, national competition and college exposure) to Northern Ohio's lacrosse community. The company also hosts charity events such as the **'Crosse out Cancer!** college lacrosse showcase (**raised a cumulative \$110,000 for Breast Cancer Research**) and the **Fisher House Charity Lacrosse Showcase** (**raised a cumulative \$364,000 for the families of wounded soldiers**) to raise money and awareness for those in need and to teach participants about their responsibility to reach out and make a difference in the lives of others.*