



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Piper's Angels Foundation Launches Scholarship Program to Encourage Saltwater Exposure for Children Living with Cystic Fibrosis** *– First Three Recipients Heading to Costa Rica for Week-Long Surfing Adventure –*

WEST PALM BEACH, Fl., November 12, 2018 – Piper's Angels Foundation, a non-profit organization providing ocean-based activities for cystic fibrosis patients due to the proven health benefits of saltwater, has announced its Forever Stoke Scholarships. Awarded to the families of cystic fibrosis children, the scholarships cover a week-long surf camp so patients can build lifelong surfing skills while benefiting from the healing powers of saltwater. Three scholarships have been awarded, providing opportunities for these children to increase their saltwater activities and engage in intense respiratory exercise, therefore decreasing symptoms and hospitalizations.

Part of Piper's Angels Salt Supply Program, these scholarships are the first to be awarded and will continue to be presented each spring, summer and fall. The first three recipients will attend surf camp in late December 2018 at the world-class Witch's Rock Surf Camp in Costa Rica, which has generously offered discounted services to Piper's Angels. Costa Rica was selected by the Foundation because of its easy access and culture of healthy living and having a positive attitude – all of which are important for cystic fibrosis patients.

“Beyond the proven health benefits of saltwater, the Forever Stoke Scholarships are a way for us to provide families with an opportunity to get away from their daily routines and regiment of cystic fibrosis and visit somewhere beautiful as a family,” said Piper's Angels Executive Director Travis Suit. “A big reason why Piper's Angels was formed was to create a path for people with cystic fibrosis to participate in saltwater activities. This is a big step towards investing in that future.”

The Piper's Angels Foundation launched the scholarship program as part of its Salt Supply Program, a lifestyle intervention and improvement initiative that aims to develop the world's largest ocean-based activities program for people with cystic fibrosis. The Forever Stoke Scholarships will help achieve that goal by encouraging the lifelong skill set of surfing as a low-cost means of saltwater therapy, as well as other saltwater activities such as paddling, rowing, sailing, and scuba diving. The program has resonated with the cystic fibrosis community as a generous contribution to the quality of life for young patients.

“At 5-years-old, we thought it was the ideal time to get our son on the water,” said Sharon Stokey, the mother of one scholarship recipient. “Within a couple of days, we received the call that Miles had received a scholarship and was heading to Costa Rica. It's a blessing because he

needs to be on the water and learning how to surf was one of his goals. I never thought we'd be in a community that is so giving and generous.”

Additional information about the Piper's Angels Foundation, including its Salt Supply Program and donations to support the cause, can be found online at <https://www.pipersangels.org>.

### **About Piper's Angels Foundation**

Piper's Angels Foundation supports and improves the lives of families with cystic fibrosis through heightened awareness, education, life-expanding activities, urgent financial support, and funding critical research. The organization aims to inspire action, make an impact and transform the lives of those affected by this disease. Additional information can be found online, at <https://www.pipersangels.org>.

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