**Graham Children’s Health Services Receives Funding Support from the North Carolina GlaxoSmithKline Foundation – The Ribbon of Hope Program**

Press Release

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Contact: Schell McCall, Executive Director, Graham Children’s Health Services

The North Carolina GlaxoSmithKline Foundation’s Ribbon of Hope Program supports community projects designed to have a positive impact on the lives of North Carolina’s Citizens. Graham Children’s Health Services was recently honored as the recipient of a $25,000 award from The Ribbon of Hope Program. These funds will be used to support a strong foundation for healthy, active living in our community. Programs that will benefit from the award include sponsorships for children participating in the Burnsville Fit Families 5K, Racqueteers Summer Tennis Camp, Boys on the Track in Burnsville, soccer fields at Cane River Park, the walking/running trail at South Toe Elementary School, the Cougar Fit Club and the STAR Program.

Many of our lifetime habits are established during childhood and adolescence. It can be a challenging time of growth and development as we discover ourselves and exert our independence. Now is the time to make an investment in our youth by replacing environmental and social contingencies that support negative lifestyle behaviors with pro-social activities and behaviors. We are able to assist children in developing positive, healthy life-long habits.

“We appreciate the confidence the North Carolina GlaxoSmithKline Foundation has placed in our community and the financial support they are providing to assist us in becoming a healthier community,” said Schell McCall, Executive Director of Graham Children’s Health Services. “The investment they have made will play a vital role in assisting us in creating environments where youth can develop healthy, active lifestyles.”

 If you would like more information about the programs of Graham Children’s Health Services, please contact: Graham Children’s Health Services 828.682.7899 or schell@grahamchildrens.org.

**About the North Carolina GlaxoSmithKline Foundation**

The North Carolina GlaxoSmithKline Foundation is an independent self-funding 501(c)3 nonprofit organization supporting activities that help meet the educational and health needs of today's society and future generations. Since its creation in 1986, the foundation has granted $65.9 million to support North Carolina projects and programs that emphasize the understanding and application of health, science and education at all academic and professional levels. Visit us at [NCGSKFoundation.org](http://www.ncgskfoundation.org/index.html) and follow us @ncgskfound.

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