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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

10 Person Canoe Teams Race to Raise Money for Kids with Disabilities

Tallahassee, FL, August 18, 2022 – SportsAbility Alliance (SA) is hosting the 6th annual Big Kahuna Canoe Race on Sunday, October 2nd in Tallahassee. This fundraising event for Miracle Sports in Tallahassee supports inclusive and accessible recreation and wellness programs for people of all ages and abilities.

No experience is necessary, everyone is invited to join and create a team for this event. Teams of 10-14 will paddle together in a Voyageur style canoe and compete in a time trial race to see who will be the “Big Kahuna”. Teams can be made up of friends, clubs or co-workers. The race will take place at 2pm at Lake Hall at Alfred B. Maclay Gardens. Teams will also have the option to practice paddling in unison prior to the event, from 12pm-2pm. Team sponsorship is \$500 and all equipment is included. Prizes will be awarded to The Big Kahuna as well as the Runner Up. Those who want to support the Miracle Sports Program, but are unable to participate in the race themselves may sponsor a team.

“The Big Kahuna Race is a fun, team-building event that is sure to include a lot of laughs”, said Executive Director Laurie LoRe-Gussak. “In the five years we’ve hosted this event, we’ve seen teams of co-workers, friends, family and even strangers really band together and just have a great time for a great cause. This is the first time since COVID that we are bringing back the Voyageur canoes and we are really excited to host this event again this year.”

Big Bend Kiwanis Club was a founding sponsor of this event and they support and volunteer with SA year round. Reigning Big Kahuna champion and leader of the Northside Kiwanis team, Gavin Boone, said of the event: “It is a great opportunity for team building for any organization for a very reasonable cost. The groups could even train in advance to promote fitness and outdoor appreciation. It is a great metaphor for leadership (steering) and group coordination, communication and motivation.”

This event is impactful and important for the community as well. Gavin continued, “The Big Kahuna event contributes \$500 per team to the SportsAbility Alliance cause as well offers persons with disabilities or special needs to compete and often win! But more importantly have fun and interact with their sponsoring Kiwanis club members.”

The funds raised from this event provide scholarships for Miracle Sports athletes. The SportsAbility Alliance Miracle Sports program provides team sports and virtual workouts for people of all abilities. This year-round recreational sports league gives everyone the opportunity to be active, have fun and make new friends in an accessible, inclusive environment. Miracle Sports are played at Miracle Field at Messer Park which has a rubberized surface, making it accessible for all. All Miracle Sports Programs are designed to enable EVERYONE to participate.

SportsAbility Alliance (formerly known as Florida Disabled Outdoors Association) works to enrich lives through accessible inclusive recreation and active leisure. Programs include SportsAbility EXPO, RecConnect, iFind, Allout and Miracle Sports. Partners and sponsors include: Florida Department of Health, City of Tallahassee Parks Recreation and Neighborhood Affairs, Florida Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Tallahassee Community College, Florida Fish and Wildlife Foundation and many more. For more information, on **SportsAbility Alliance**, visit www.sportsability.org or contact (850) 201-2944, info@sportsability.org.

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