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7th Grade St. Luke's Students Raise over \$1,500 for Lyme disease Research

Georgie Morgan and Emily Burnaman of St Luke's School in New Canaan decided to celebrate their spring birthdays together and forego birthday presents in lieu of raising funds for The National Research Fund for Tick-borne Diseases, Inc. (NRFTD). The NRFTD is an organization whose primary interest is to fund the scientific research necessary to achieve the following goals: improved diagnostic testing, clarification of disease processes, and cures for tick-borne diseases.

"We are sick and tired of Lyme disease. I know of a lot of people who are really sick from it, we just wanted to do something to help" explained Georgina Morgan of New Canaan. "Being born with Lyme disease and having long-term treatment, I know how bad Lyme disease can be and feel very lucky to have recovered." added Emily Burnaman from Wilton.

Thirty-nine seventh graders joined their St Luke's School classmates on Friday, May 18th where "Scratch" the DJ provided awesome dancing songs and fun games for all. There was plenty of pizza and birthday cake- A perfect way to spend a rainy afternoon at the New Canaan Outback Teen Center. The event raised over \$1,500.00 as well as increased Lyme and Tick-borne disease awareness within their own grade.

About the National Research Fund for Tick-Borne Diseases, Inc.

The NRFTD is a nonprofit organization devoted to funding scientific research in the rapidly expanding field of tick-borne diseases. It is determined to advance scientific understanding of these complicated infections by sponsoring innovative research of the highest quality at premier institutions throughout the world.

The NRFTD was founded in 1999 to address the complex and critical research questions raised by thousands of patients afflicted with emerging tick-borne diseases, including Lyme disease, relapsing fever borrelia, anaplasmosis, babesiosis, bartonella and ehrlichiosis. The need for answers has grown markedly as Lyme disease has spread dramatically throughout the country and as other tick-borne infections have been recognized as public health threats.

For more information about the NRFTD, or to make a tax-deductible donation, visit www.nrftd.org.