



ANDY TRANSPLANT FOUNDATION  
*Saving Lives Through Awareness & Research*

## News Release

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**CONTACT:** Drew Becker

Office: 919-264-9868

Email: [info@andytransplantfoundation.org](mailto:info@andytransplantfoundation.org)

### **WORLD SERIES OF POKER SATELLITE TOURNAMENT TO BE HELD IN RALEIGH FOUNDATION SPONSORS A CHANCE TO STRIKE IT RICH**

**Raleigh, North Carolina** – The North American Andy’s Transplant Foundation (ATF), in conjunction with Harrah’s Entertainment Inc. in Las Vegas, will host an officially licensed, local satellite Poker Championship to qualify for the World Series of Poker (WSOP) main event. This qualifying championship will be held in Raleigh, June 28-29 and the entry fee is only \$300. The winner of this Texas Hold-Em weekend will receive a seat in 2008 World Series of Poker in Las Vegas and a chance to win big. Last year’s winner took home \$8.2 million dollars.

“We expect our participants to have a great time, win money and help a wonderful cause. The winner will fly to Las Vegas to compete with a \$10,000 stake,” said Susan Thompson, international TV personality and ATF founder. “We are pledged to save lives by supporting research and increasing donor involvement through greater awareness?” Thompson started the foundation in memory of her brother Andy who passed away due to liver disease while waiting for a transplant.

ATF will host the tournament in a premium poker room for players looking for the real action. The two-day event will take place at the Raleigh Hilton Hotel and final rounds will be televised. Several celebrities supporting the cause have committed to participate. Certain lucky players will have the opportunity to sit at the tables along side Andrea Ciliberi, Miss Missouri USA 2005 who appeared on *Beauty and the Geek*, Carolina Hurricane cheerleaders and others to be announced.

A silent and online auction will offer world travel packages, gaming and entertainment items and other prizes throughout the weekend.

The event is open to anyone over 21 years of age, from first time player to seasoned professional. A dedicated team of professionals will be on site to make sure the rules are followed during the tournament. Proceeds from the event will go to support the Andy Transplant Foundation and donations on the part of the foundation will be made to North Carolina organ research institutions.

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Established in 2004, The Andy Transplant Foundation’s (ATF) main objective is to save lives through charitable fund-raising that supports transplant research and increases awareness of the need for individual organ transplant donations. The foundation is headquartered in Cary, North Carolina with operations throughout North America. [www.andytransplantfoundation.com](http://www.andytransplantfoundation.com).

Harrah’s Entertainment, Inc. is the world’s largest provider of branded casino entertainment through operating subsidiaries.