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### **Former talk show host, Atlanta TV personality speaks about her fight to fulfill lifelong college dream for son living with disability despite overwhelming obstacles**



#### ***Judi Moen Stanley to address metro Atlanta leaders and advocates at All About Developmental Disabilities (AADD) Annual Legacy Breakfast Event on October 26***

October 5, 2010 (ATLANTA) -- During Judi Moen Stanley's pregnancy with her third son Phillip, she was the spotlight of a "Beautiful Babies" TV campaign. As with just about everything else in her life, with this pregnancy, Stanley, the former Good Day Atlanta reporter, did everything right. In fact, every milestone of her pregnancy was chronicled as the standard for all pregnant women.

So, **Stanley and her family couldn't have been more stunned when, after five months and \$25,000 worth of tests, Phillip received a diagnosis that would forever change their lives: cerebral palsy.** Thus began a long, sometimes rocky journey: through years of anticipation before Phillip uttered his first word; through the startling revelation of his juvenile diabetes; through the emotional and physical ups and downs of helping him achieve mobility; and through the highs and lows of helping Phillip complete his high school education.

For more than 20 years of dedication to Phillip and her family, Stanley fought to ensure he had the best chances at a fulfilling life. **When Phillip determined he wanted to attend college, Stanley did the same-she rolled up her sleeves and determined to find a way to make it happen.**

Her hard work paid off -- Phillip is now enrolled in his first year at the University of West Georgia (UWG), his first time ever living away from his family. UWG stepped up to provide a level of disability accommodations for Phillip that surprised even Stanley herself:

- A dedicated tutor/aide to assist with transitioning to campus life and to check in on his diabetes;
- Caption technology to help him keep up with information and note-taking during lectures;
- Extended time, as needed, for testing and project completion;
- An ADA bathroom and bedroom customized to make room for his power chair and walker; and
- A dedicated patient advocate at Student Health Services to assist with his diabetes management, to name a few.

"This is just the beginning for Phillip and every day brings a new set of opportunities and challenges, " said Judi Moen Stanley. "With all the ups and downs, we are just so excited to see Phillip so happy, purposeful and hopeful that, for his future, the sky really is the limit."

For years, Stanley has been a fierce advocate for not only Phillip, but also for other individuals with developmental disabilities and a prominent spokeswoman for Atlanta-based All About Developmental Disabilities (AADD). Currently, she's working on the documentary titled "Not Home", which is about possibilities for people with disabilities. Metro Atlanta leaders and advocates will gather at the Atlanta History Center for the **Annual AADD Legacy Breakfast on Tuesday, October 26, 2010** to hear Stanley's story firsthand and learn more about the unspoken challenges of people with disabilities.

For more information about the Legacy Breakfast, visit [www.aadd.org](http://www.aadd.org). To request a press pass for the Legacy Breakfast, or to interview Judi Moen Stanley, her son Phillip or University of West Georgia representatives, contact Tanai Anderson at 404-671-9301, ext. 4 or [tanderson@kls-pr.com](mailto:tanderson@kls-pr.com).

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