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For Immediate Release:

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Long Distance Skateboard Trip to Benefit Brain Injury

Statesville, N.C. – In June, local business leader and brain injury advocate, Marion Karr will begin the first ever, long-distance skateboard trip across the state to raise awareness for traumatic brain injury (TBI) and funds for Hinds' Feet Farm, a leading service provider for persons living with traumatic and acquired brain injuries. Marion's goal for this ambitious first effort is to raise an impressive \$10,000 to benefit the Hinds' Feet Farm Day Programs. Marion, a Christ Follower and generous man, has been deeply touched by the mission of Hinds' Feet Farm, run by Martin Foil, a childhood friend from his hometown of Concord.

In the event, aptly named "Surf2TheSurf", Marion will begin his historic ride in Asheville, continue through Huntersville to Raleigh and ultimately to Wilmington. Along the route, Marion and support staff will be available to speak to local youth groups and organizations about the importance of helmet safety and to raise awareness of brain injury. Nationally, 1.4 Millions Americans suffer a TBI. Of that number, almost 90,000 suffer a permanent disability as a result of their TBI. In North Carolina, it is estimated that as many as 160,000 are living with the permanent effects of their injury. See <http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/tbi/TBI.htm> for more information on brain injury from the Centers for Disease Control.

Long distance skateboarding could be seen as the ultimate test of the skateboarder. By combining the tactical mind of a road cyclist and the endurance of a cross-country marathon runner, its participants literally push themselves to achieve their goals in a tradition which dates back as far as the 1970's. The equipment might have evolved, but the spirit of adventure, discovery and wonder this unique sport evoke remains unchanged.

Follow Marion and the Surf2TheSurf ride on twitter: <http://twitter.com/Surf2TheSurf>, Marion's blog: <http://hammerhead.skatefurther.net/>, or his daily morning broadcast from the road on Statesville local radio station WSIC 1400 AM on the web at <http://www.wsicweb.com/>. Persons interested in sponsoring or donating to support Marion's efforts may do so on Facebook: <http://apps.facebook.com/causes/435552/1875651>. All donations are tax-deductible. Fellow long-board skating enthusiasts are welcome to join Marion on the ride. Contact Marion at 704-871-1036 or Surf2thesurf@gmail.com.

As advocates, Marion and Martin represent two different faces of brain injury: Marion lost the hearing in his right ear after being struck by a car in 1981; and Martin's younger brother, Philip suffered a very serious brain injury in a motor vehicle accident in 1982. It was Philip's injury and subsequent struggle to find appropriate facilities for brain injury that led the Foil family to establish Hinds' Feet Farm.

About Hinds' Feet Farm

Hinds' Feet Farm is dedicated to serving persons living with brain injury. Our mission is to maximize the post injury potential of persons living with brain injury with integrated, unique and holistic programs; allowing persons living with brain injury to pursue meaningful activities while developing a sense of belonging at home and in the surrounding communities. Currently, Hinds' Feet Farm operates two Day Programs in North Carolina: Huntersville and Asheville. With the two programs, Hinds' Feet Farm is serving almost 30 adults living with traumatic and acquired brain injuries from almost a dozen counties across the state.

Hinds Feet Farm is a 501-(c)3 charitable organization located in Huntersville, NC. For more information on the Farm and their exciting programs, visit their website at www.HindsFeetFarm.org or contact Marty Foil, Executive Director, at (704) 992-1424.

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