Contact: Colleen Rathgeber FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tel: 202-816-8264

Email: colleen@perthes.org

**Legg Calve Perthes Foundation Welcomes Dr. Wudbhav Sankar, Pediatric Orthopedic Surgeon at Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia, as Board Member**

**JANUARY 11TH 2018 – WASHINGTON, D.C.** The Legg Calve Perthes Foundation, dedicated to improving research, education, and awareness of Perthes, has added a new Board member this month. Dr. Wudbhav Sankar is passionate about the Foundations’ mission and has extensive training and experience in pediatric orthopedics. “As the Legg Calve Perthes Foundation continues to grow, it is critical to align with the best in class surgeons who are passionate about contributing to the overall success of the goals of the Foundation,” explains founder Colleen Rathgeber. Alongside Dr. Harry Kim of the Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children, there are two experienced Perthes pediatric orthopedic surgeons on the Board; both will have dual roles and also serving as Medical Advisors.

Dr. Sankar is the Associate Professor of Orthopedic Surgery and Director of the Hip Disorders Program at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia. Sankar is a graduate of Cornell University and the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. He is committed to high-quality clinical research in Perthes disease to answer our many questions about the condition and develop improved treatment options for the next generation.

Dr. Harry Kim, M.D., M.S., F.R.C.S.C., is a Professor of Orthopedic Surgery at UT Southwestern Medical Center and the Director of Research at Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children. He also serves as the Director of the Center for Excellence in Hip Disorders. Kim attended McGill University Medical School in Canada. He is passionate about finding a cure for Perthes disease and increasing the awareness of Perthes in the general population and medical community.

For those unfamiliar with this disease, Legg–Calvé–Perthes Disease (LCPD) is a childhood hip disorder initiated by a disruption of blood flow to the ball of the femur called the femoral head. Due to the lack of blood flow, the bone dies (osteonecrosis or avascular necrosis) and stops growing. LCPD usually occurs in children aged 4-10 years. Perthes disease is one of the most common hip disorders in young children, occurring in roughly 5.5 of 100,000 children per year. The lifetime risk of a child developing the disease is about one per 1,200 individuals. Boys are affected about three to five times more often than girls.

For additional information on how to help or donate to the Foundation, contact Colleen Rathgeber at 202-816-8264 or via email at colleen@perthes.org.

**About Legg Calve Perthes Foundation**

The Legg-Calve-Perthes Foundation is a national health and educational organization dedicated to helping adults living with Perthes, families with children diagnosed with Perthes, and providing support in living with associated difficulties that often come with the Perthes diagnosis. The Foundation’s mission is to create a centralized support community to improve the research, education, and awareness of those diagnosed with Perthes. The Foundation began in 2017, when a group of parents acknowledged that there was not a single resource dedicated to a disease that would consume most of their children’s childhood. The Board Members today are either impacted directly from a clinical or family perspective.