



Danny Granger visits St. Jude's patients Carson and Antwain on Friday in Memphis, Tenn. (St. Jude's photo)

Granger joins NBA stars in supporting St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

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Danny Granger has joined with several NBA stars in "Hoops for St. Jude" benefiting St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, Tenn., one of the world's premier pediatric cancer research centers.

Granger, Pau Gasol, Rudy Gay, Shane Battier, Kevin Love and Steve Blake will make a donation to St. Jude for each point they score throughout the NBA season with a minimum donation of \$20,000. In addition, Denver coach George Karl is lending support by donating \$20,000 to St. Jude.

"I teamed up with Hoops for St. Jude because I learned of the amazing work St. Jude is doing around the world, including my home state of Louisiana," said Granger. "The battles I face on the court can't compare to the battles faced by St. Jude families as they fight against cancer. I challenge the great fans of the NBA to join me in support of St. Jude."

Granger visited the hospital Friday and met with several patients. "St. Jude is very impressive. They cover all aspects of medical treatment and patient care," he said. "I've always loved kids. They are the only pure thing left in this world and to see what the patients of St. Jude are going through – my heart goes out to them."

Fans can join the "Hoops for St. Jude" team by making a one-time or monthly donation or by pledging for points scored by any team members during the 2009-2010 season at www.hoopsforstjude.org. With a donation of \$20 or more, fans will receive a commemorative Hoops for St. Jude lapel pin.

The season-long "Hoops for St. Jude" eBay auction of autographed sports memorabilia and other exclusive basketball items provides another way for fans to get involved. Items currently available for bid include autographed practice-worn shoes by Kevin Durant, Jeff Green and Mike Bibby and autographed basketballs from Greg Oden and the entire Toronto Raptors team.

All money raised through the online auction benefits St. Jude, where no child is denied treatment because of a family's inability to pay. To donate and to bid on the auction, visit www.hoopsforstjude.org.