



Corvallis Cancer "Warrior Princess" Chosen for ABC's *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition*

Extreme Makeover: Home Edition shoots an Oregon premiere July 7-14 to give Jenessa Nichole Byers and her family the home of their dreams

Corvallis, Ore. (July 7, 2007) -- "Good morning, Byers family!" was the phrase Ty Pennington of ABC's *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition* enthusiastically shouted as the Byers family ran out of their Corvallis house jumping and screaming, about to receive the greatest surprise of their lives. Out of dozens of Oregon home builders, ABC chose award-winning, green-certified Legend Homes to help this very deserving family get the home of their dreams in Oregon's first and perhaps only *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition*.

The Byers look like your typical American family: a hard-working dad (Rob), a doting mom (Rachel), two rowdy boys (Chris, 13 and Joe, 12) and a spunky little sister (Jenessa, or "Boey," 8). But in January 28, 2006, the family's world went dark. Boey was diagnosed with a very rare, aggressive childhood cancer called Rhabdomyosarcoma, which has a 70% survival rate. This loving, spirited family refused to be defeated by the disease and banded together to help Boey in the fight for her life. Not only did Boey—nicknamed by friends as "The Little Warrior"—endure nearly a year of chemotherapy and radiation, she became proactive and outspoken about combating cancer. During and after her 2006 treatment, she visited other children with cancer, created YouTube videos about cancer and started a foundation to help fund research for childhood cancer.

Unfortunately, Boey's cancer recently returned. In June, in between stays at Doernbecher Children's Hospital, Boey asked Oregon Senator Ron Wyden to co-sponsor the Conquer Childhood Cancer Act.

Though the Byer family is united in rallying around Boey and advocating for progress in pediatric cancer treatment, her past medical bills have left them beyond broke. The family's fixer-upper house that Rob planned to transform into their dream home is in serious disrepair. Healthcare experts have advised the family that the home is dangerous to Boey's fragile immune system. While asbestos has been removed from the house, the structure is still filled with toxic molds, a faulty electrical system, dry rot, an unstable foundation and broken windows. Brother Joe, who has Asperger Syndrome (a form of autism), suffers asthma attacks triggered by the home's toxins, which also requires medical treatment.

Legend Homes encourages you to get involved and help this deserving family realize their dream of living in a safe, clean and environmentally green home that doesn't threaten Boey's or Joe's health. Go to www.legendhomes.com, click the Extreme Makeover logo, click Volunteer and complete the form. The website also provides a link to make donations, directly benefiting the Byers family.

Founded in 1965, Legend Homes is the award-winning builder of more than 12,000 homes in communities throughout Portland and Corvallis. Their high-quality, green-built homes are crafted with premium materials to ensure structure strength, better air quality and energy efficiency.

Extreme Makeover: Home Edition, which has won back-to-back Emmy Awards as Best Reality Program (non-competitive), is entering its fifth season on ABC. The

program is produced by Endemol USA, a division of Endemol Holding. Denise Cramsey is the executive producer; and David Goldberg is the president of Endemol USA.

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