## \*\*\*MEDIA ADVISORY\*\*\*

# ACTORS TED DANSON AND MARY STEENBURGEN JOIN THE FIGHT AGAINST PROGERIA

Rapid aging disease kills children by their early teens; Progeria Research Foundation driving efforts to find treatment and cure

#### WHO

The recognizable voices of Ted Danson and Mary Steenburgen are featured in a public service campaign launched this week by The Progeria Research Foundation (PRF). Proud supporters of PRF since 2003, the couple lend their time and talent to help raise awareness of Progeria and highlight the need for more research of this disease.

"We are honored to be a part of this tremendous effort to raise awareness about Progeria."

-Mary Steenburgen and Ted Danson

#### **WHAT**

The Progeria Research Foundation is the only non-profit organization established to find the cause, treatment and cure for Progeria – a rapid aging disease that causes children to die by their early teens from heart disease or stroke. In just seven years, PRF has done a tremendous amount to help save these children, and in 2003, accomplished the first part of its mission by identifying the gene that causes Progeria.

Scientists now know that further research in this field can help us learn more about adult heart disease and the aging process that affects us all. Recent studies have also uncovered a drug that may be a cure for this devastating disease, and PRF is <a href="now">now</a> working to <a href="raise funds to">raise funds to</a> start children in clinical trials as quickly as possible.

The public service announcement is narrated by Ted Danson and Mary Steenburgen, and features images of several children with Progeria.

### **RESOURCES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST**

- Photo of Ted Danson and Mary Steenburgen with Sam, a young boy with Progeria
- Interviews with Audrey Gordon, President and Executive Director, The Progeria Research Foundation
- Electronic versions of the TV, radio, and print versions of the PSA

#### **MEDIA CONTACTS**

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For more information on The Progeria Research Foundation, visit www.ProgeriaResearch.org.