



For Immediate Release
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CONTACT:
Nicole Carkner, QCHI, 563-421-2815

Quad City Health Initiative Moon Walk 2008 Closes with Splashdown Celebration:
Community walked 1,250,292 miles over 12 weeks to promote healthy lifestyles

On July 9, 2008, the Wellness Champions of the Quad City Health Initiative (QCHI) celebrate the close of Moon Walk 2008 with a Splashdown Celebration at the Rogalski Center on the campus of St. Ambrose University. Five thousand one hundred and twenty (5,120) individuals participated in this 12-week event that began on April 4th and that highlighted the value of daily exercise to maintaining good health. The Quad City team accumulated a record breaking 1,250,292 miles beating competitor teams in Peoria and Champaign Urbana, Illinois in the virtual race equivalent to two round trips to the moon (954,800 miles). For the second time in three years, the Quad Cities won the coveted Moon Walk Walking Stick trophy and the title of Moon Walk Champions.

"We congratulate Peoria and Champaign Urbana on an excellent race," says Nicole Carkner, Project Coordinator for the Quad City Health Initiative, which organizes the Moon Walk locally. "The community-wide competition has been a tremendous success for all communities by motivating and encouraging individuals to incorporate physical activity into their daily lives. We are very proud of the Moon Walkers for their commitment to the Moon Walk race and most of all for their commitment to promoting healthy lifestyle habits in the Quad Cities."

The Splashdown celebration recognizes the top performing teams in the Quad Cities as well as individuals who accumulated more than 1,000 individual miles. The event also celebrates the 96 Moon Walk Teams and their Captains who led the effort across the community.

QCHI gratefully acknowledges the following organizations that contributed to the success of Moon Walk 2008:

Advantage Advertising	Genesis Occupational Health
Augustana College/John Deere Planetarium	Heritage Foods
Community Health Care, Inc.	Hy-Vee Food Stores
Dick's Sporting Goods	Trinity Regional Health System
Genesis Health System	

A list of the teams that participated in Moon Walk 2008 is given at the end of this release.

In QCHI's 2002 Community Health Assessment, obesity, high blood pressure and high cholesterol (all risk factors for cardiovascular disease) emerged as critical issues for the health of our region. Since December 2002, the Wellness Champions team has been working to reverse these trends by promoting daily exercise, nutrition and regular screenings for health risk factors. The Wellness Champions team includes about 69 individual representatives from 50 organizations across the Quad City community.

The Quad City Health Initiative (QCHI) is a community partnership in active pursuit of a healthier community. The Initiative seeks to be a catalyst for improving the health and overall quality of life within the Quad City community. The Initiative raises awareness of health issues, encourages or creates projects to address gaps in health services and fosters community collaboration in all aspects of health. Major financial sponsors of the Initiative are Trinity Regional Health System and Genesis Health System. Additional financial support is provided in 2008 by Alcoa and First Midwest Bank. For more information or to join the efforts of the Quad City Health Initiative, please call 563-421-2815 or visit our website at www.qchealthinitiative.org.

The following teams participated in Moon Walk 2008:

Alpha Kappa Alpha-Xi Beta Omega
Alzheimer's Association
ALCOA
American Red Cross
Andalusia Elementary School
APAC
Aquent IT Solutions
Arc of Rock Island County
Asbury United Methodist Church
Augustana College
Bethany for Children & Families
Bettendorf Presbyterian Church
Big Brothers Big Sisters
Bi-State Regional Commission/Scott County Kids
Black Hawk College
CADS
Cambridge United Methodist Church
Community Health Care, Inc.
Child Abuse Council
Child Care Resource & Referral
Christ United Methodist Church
ChiroFitness Xtreme
Church of Peace
City of East Moline
City of Moline
City of Rock Island
Cosentine Moon Walkers
Davenport Community Schools
Deere & Company World Headquarters
Deere Davenport Works
Deere-PDC
Deere Harvester
Deere Seeding/Cylinder
Dept. of Human Services of Scott County
East Moline Metal Products Co.
Faith Lutheran Church
Family Resources
FCA Manufacturing Co.
First Baptist Church SAS
First Presbyterian Church, East Moline
Genesis Family Medical Center
Genesis Health Group - Pediatrics
Genesis Health System
Genesis Occupational Health
Genesis Systems Group
Grace Lutheran Church
Heart of America
Hy-Vee Food Stores
Isle of Capri
Jefferson-Edison Elementary School
Journeyin For Jesus
Just Kids Early Care & Education Centers
Katun Corporation
KJWW Engineering Consultants
Lafarge North America
Liberty Fitness & Weight Loss
MA Ford MFG
Metropolitan Medical Laboratory
MidAmerican Energy
Midland Information Resources
Mississippi Bend AEA
Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center
Moline Dispatch Publishing Co., LLC
Nichols Aluminum
PCT Engineered Systems LLC
QCHI
Quad City Bicycle Club
Quad City Bank & Trust
Quad City Sports Center
QC Tag
Reynolds Grade School
Riverside United Methodist
TACOM-ECBC Chemmies
Rock Island Arsenal - PM SKOT/Tools LCMC
Rock Island Arsenal Fitness Center
Rock Island County Health Department/Rock Island
County staff
Rock Island County Regional Office of Education
Russell Construction Company
Ryan Companies US, Inc.
St. Ambrose University
St. John's Lutheran Church
St. Pius X Catholic Church
Scott County Family YMCA
The Sedona Group
Select Specialty Hospital
Sherrard School District
Skip A Long
Trinity Church - Rock Island
Trinity Lutheran Church/Journey His Weigh
Trinity Regional Health System & Satellite Location
Two Rivers United Methodist Church
Two Rivers YMCA
United Way of the Quad Cities Area
US Army Corps of Engineers
West Eldridge Moon Walkers
Western Illinois University-Quad Cities

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