



AN AFFILIATE OF HOSPITAL SISTERS HEALTH SYSTEM

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WALMART AND SAM'S CLUB LOCATIONS RAISE VITAL FUNDS FOR ST. JOHN'S CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

SPRINGFIELD, IL – Beginning May 1 through June 11, Walmart customers and Sam's Club members can help "Every child live better" by making a donation of \$1 or more at the retailers' 22 locations raising funds for St. John's Children's Hospital, the local Children's Miracle Network Hospital.

Customers and members can quickly add a "Miracle Balloon" donation during checkout this spring, with 100 percent of funds going directly to St. John's Children's Hospital. In 2013, the six-week Walmart and Sam's Club campaign raised more than \$41 million nationally, with additional activities throughout the year increasing the total to \$54 million for local Children's Miracle Network Hospitals.

"Our member hospitals depend on the charitable funds Walmart and Sam's Club associates, customers and members contribute every year," said John Lauck, president and CEO of Children's Miracle Network Hospitals. "We feel incredibly grateful for the support this in-store fundraising campaign receives and credit the generous individuals at the register for giving Springfield-area kids and families the hope of healing. We're also excited about new initiatives to increase understanding of the charitable need of children's hospitals and the dramatic impact Walmart and Sam's Club fundraising has on its communities."

New this year, Children's Miracle Network Hospitals year-round signage will appear in designated Walmart baby departments to show the impact of local funds raised. Packaged goods suppliers including Gerber, Johnson & Johnson and Proctor & Gamble have also enlisted to support Children's Miracle Network Hospitals and Walmart's Every Little Step program. In addition, families across the nation can tune in for an episode of ABC's "Bet On Your Baby" airing May – July featuring the charity.

Since 1987, Walmart and Sam's Club fundraising across North America has provided more than \$700 million for pediatric care. Funds are used by the community hospital depending on the greatest need – helping to provide necessary charitable care, establish critical care wings, introduce therapy programs and fund specialized, life-saving treatment and equipment.

ABOUT ST. JOHN'S HOSPITAL

St. John's Hospital in Springfield, Illinois is a regional medical center offering a comprehensive array of health care services to Central and Southern Illinois. Founded in 1875, St. John's is the flagship hospital of Hospital Sisters Health System and is home to the Prairie Heart Institute, St. John's Children's Hospital, St. John's Women's Services, St. John's Neurosciences Institute, St. John's Cancer Institute, Center for Living, Orthopedic Services and AthletiCare. St. John's is designated as a Level I Trauma Center on a yearly rotating basis, has its own College of Nursing and is a teaching hospital for the Southern Illinois University School of Medicine. For more information about St. John's Hospital, visit www.st-johns.org

ABOUT HOSPITAL SISTERS HEALTH SYSTEM

Hospital Sisters Health System is a Roman Catholic health care mission founded to continue the healing ministry of Jesus Christ. Sponsored by the Hospital Sisters of St. Francis, HSHS provides state-of-the-art health care framed in traditional values taught by St. Francis and St. Clare of Assisi. It is dedicated to serving all people, including the poor and the needy, at each of its 13 Local Systems in Illinois (Belleville, Breese, Decatur, Effingham, Highland, Litchfield, Springfield and Streator) and in Wisconsin (Chippewa Falls, Eau Claire, Sheboygan and two in Green Bay). For more information about HSHS, visit www.hshs.org.

ABOUT CHILDREN'S MIRACLE NETWORK HOSPITALS

Children's Miracle Network Hospitals® raises funds and awareness for 170 member hospitals that provide 32 million treatments each year to kids across the U.S. and Canada. Donations stay local to fund critical treatments and healthcare services, pediatric medical equipment and charitable care. Since 1983, Children's Miracle Network Hospitals has raised more than \$5 billion, most of it \$1 at a time through the charity's Miracle Balloon icon. Its various fundraising partners and programs support the nonprofit's mission to save and improve the lives of as many children as possible. Find out why children's hospitals need community support, identify your member hospital and learn how you can Put Your Money Where the Miracles Are, at CMNHospitals.org and facebook.com/CMNHospitals.

ABOUT WALMART

Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. (NYSE: WMT) helps people around the world save money and live better – anytime and anywhere – in retail stores, online, and through their mobile devices. Each week, more than 200 million customers and members visit our more than 10,700 stores under 69 banners in 27 countries and e-commerce websites in 10 countries. With fiscal year 2013 sales of approximately \$466 billion, Walmart employs more than 2.2 million associates worldwide. Walmart continues to be a leader in sustainability, corporate philanthropy and employment opportunity. Additional information about Walmart can be found by visiting <http://corporate.walmart.com>.