



Public Information Office

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**For Immediate Release**

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**Grandview Medical Center Donates to March of Dimes ‘WalkAmerica’ Event**

**Jasper, Tenn.** – Helping people in need is a natural activity to many local residents. But when it comes to helping those who cannot help themselves and who are the most defenseless, the March of Dimes’ WalkAmerica fundraising event that raises funds to help prevent birth defects becomes a mission of love and compassion.

With that thought in mind, Grandview Medical Center recently donated \$400 to become a March of Dimes “WalkAmerica” sponsor and help encourage local residents to take part in the Sunday, April 15, regional event in Dunlap, Tenn.

“There’s nothing more precious or fragile than a newborn baby,” said Grandview chief executive officer Dan Aranda. “The March of Dimes is at the forefront of preventing birth defects and helping families, even in our own area, go home together safely, happily and in better health. Grandview is happy to help the March of Dimes in these efforts.”

The WalkAmerica event is scheduled to be held at Harris Park in Dunlap. Team registration begins at 11:30 a.m. CST and walking begins at 1 p.m.

Local March of Dimes Community Director Ed Cullis said this year’s event includes not only Sequatchie County but other surrounding counties as well, including Marion.

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“We are expecting another fun and successful event this year, and we encourage anyone to participate who is interested in supporting the March of Dimes in their ongoing mission to give every baby a full nine months.” Cullis said.

WalkAmerica teams raise money by obtaining monetary pledges to the March of Dimes. Walkers show appreciation and call attention to the March of Dimes’ cause or to a special premature or ill baby in their lives, by walking in their honor. Many also walk simply in appreciation of healthy babies or for all children for that matter. Cullis said anyone can create a walk team, and there is no limit to the number of walkers to make a team.

(More)

For more information on the March of Dimes WalkAmerica or to find out how to register a team, visit [www.walkamerica.org](http://www.walkamerica.org) or call 1-800-525-WALK (9255). Mr. Cullis can be reached locally at the Chattanooga Office of The March of Dimes (423) 267-7172.

Grandview Medical Center is a fully accredited 70-bed licensed hospital located in Jasper, Tenn., and serves Marion, Sequatchie counties in Tennessee and north Jackson County in Alabama. Grandview Medical Center offers a medical staff of over 40 skilled physicians, representing a wide variety of medical specialties. In addition, Grandview Medical Center operates the Marion County Ambulance Service; North Valley Medical Plaza, a 24-hour emergency department and outpatient clinic in Dunlap; and Mountainview Treatment Center, an adult inpatient psychiatric program located on the grounds of Grandview Medical Center.

*Picture Cutline: March of Dimes Community Director Ed Cullis accepts a donation from Grandview Medical Center executive Dan Aranda. Grandview became a sponsor for the March of Dimes regional WalkAmerica event scheduled for April 15 in Dunlap.*

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