



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## ***LOCAL HOSPITALS STEP UP TO THE PLATE TO RAISE AWARENESS AND FUNDS FOR MEMORY WALK DURING KICKOFF EVENT***

**KOKOMO, IN**— It's a tradition. Howard Regional Health System and St. Joseph Hospital teams will meet on the softball field at Darrough Chapel Park Aug. 12 at 6 p.m. during the Memory Walk kickoff event to raise awareness of Alzheimer's disease and funds for the Alzheimer's Association.

The good-natured game, sponsored by North Woods Village and North Woods Commons, will be the fifth match-up between the two hospitals. In the past, St. Joseph Hospital and Howard Regional Health System have both taken home the title as champion two times. This year, Howard Regional Health System will be defending their title as St. Joseph looks to take it back and gain an advantage in the winning record.

"Those who attend this event can expect to watch an exciting and fun softball game, participate in raffles, enjoy items from the concession stand, get information on Alzheimer's disease and Memory Walk and get satisfaction in knowing that they are helping get the word out about Alzheimer's awareness," said Lisa Holaday, Howard Regional Health System Community Relations Coordinator/Marketing Assistant and event planning committee member.

Teams are composed of 15 members each, including at least three doctors and a minimum of five women. Doctors Harry Haran, Sridhar Jatla, John Koscica and Inder Seekri will play for St. Joseph Hospital; Howard Regional Health System's line up consists of Doctors Mohanjit Gill, Joel Underwood, Brad Vossberg, and John Schiltz.

Admission is free; spectators will be invited to make a free-will donation. Spectators are encouraged to bring their own seating because there is limited bleacher space.

Today, approximately 5.3 million Americans have Alzheimer's disease, including 120,000 Hoosiers. Every 70 seconds, someone develops Alzheimer's disease, making Alzheimer's disease the sixth leading cause of death. The direct and indirect costs of Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia amount to more than \$148 billion annually.

The Alzheimer's Association is the world leader in Alzheimer's research and support. Having awarded more than \$150 million to nearly 1,300 research projects, the Alzheimer's Association is the largest private funder of Alzheimer research. The Association's vision is a world without Alzheimer's disease. For more information about Alzheimer's disease, call 800.272.3900 or visit [www.alz.org/indiana](http://www.alz.org/indiana).

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