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**ALZHEIMER’S ASSOCIATION CLEVELAND WALK TO END ALZHEIMER’S®**

**RAISES MORE THAN $463,000**

**CLEVELAND, OH –** On October 6 more than 4,400 walkers gathered at Cleveland Metroparks Zoo to join the fight to end Alzheimer’s raising more than $463,000 to-date.

With more than 395 teams, the walk, presented locally by Mission Partner Cleveland Clinic Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health, brought individuals, families and businesses together to raise awareness and funds to fight to end Alzheimer’s. The year-round volunteer event planning committee is led by co-chairs Kristin McAdams and Chelsae Poelking.

“This amazing fundraising effort speaks directly to the profound impact that Alzheimer’s disease and other dementias have on individuals and families. These are the people we serve, the people who daily seek the caregiver support services offered by the Alzheimer’s Association. Funds raised will support direct caregiver services, education and awareness efforts, drive research, and fuel efforts to advocate at the federal and state levels for the services that individuals with a diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease or another dementia so desperately need,” said Nancy Udelson, chapter president and CEO.

Other key sponsors included Edward Jones, national presenting sponsor; Saber Healthcare Foundation, The Normandy Senior Living Campus, Cleveland-Cliffs, Inc., *Cleveland Magazine*, Cognivue, California Closets, Judson, and Brooklyn Pointe Assisted Living and Memory Care.

Donations to the Walk to End Alzheimer’s can be made [here](https://act.alz.org/site/TR;jsessionid=00000000.app207a?fr_id=12446&pg=entry&NONCE_TOKEN=89B744DC27D5DCE1B44397E63F76D66D) through December 31, 2019.

The Cleveland Walk and Alzheimer’s disease were personal for dozens of family teams who walked in honor of their loved ones fighting Alzheimer’s or in memory of those who have passed away from the disease. Many wore T-shirts with hand-decorated messages.

Rep. Stephanie Howse, (D-Cleveland), walk Honorary Chair, encouraged the crowd to fight to end Alzheimer’s and reach out to the Alzheimer’s Association for critical care and support services. Rep. Howse’s mother, Annie Key, has mixed dementia and Stephanie is one of her primary caregivers.

The Cleveland Walk to End Alzheimer's was the last of three 2019 chapter walk events. The others, in Lorain and Kirtland, in September raised more than $300,000 bringing the total for the walks to-date to more than $764,000.

In Ohio more than 220,000 persons are living with Alzheimer’s or another dementia and more than 600,000 persons are providing unpaid care for those individuals. In the United States, more than 5.8 million people are living with Alzheimer’s or another dementia and nearly 16 million are providing unpaid care. Every 65 seconds someone in the United States develops Alzheimer’s.

The Cleveland Area Chapter offers free caregiving programs and services, including dementia care coaching, early-stage services, caregiver support groups, social engagement programs and community and online education programs. The 24/7, 365 toll-free Helpline at 800.272.3900 offers referral and support services in 140 languages on any issue faced at any stage of the journey.

Walk to End Alzheimer’s is more than a walk. It calls on participants to unite in a movement to reclaim the future for millions. In addition to the actual walk, participants learn about Alzheimer’s disease and how to get involved with this critical cause, from advocacy opportunities to support programs and services to clinical studies.

**Alzheimer’s Association®**

The Alzheimer’s Association is the leading voluntary health organization in Alzheimer’s care, support and research. Our mission is to eliminate Alzheimer’s disease through the advancement of research; to provide and enhance care and support for all affected; and to reduce the risk of dementia through the promotion of brain health. Our vision is a world without Alzheimer’s. Visit alz.org or call 800.272.3900.

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