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**VITAS Healthcare presenting sponsor for Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's Lee County**

*Walk to End Alzheimer's is the world's largest event dedicated to Alzheimer's care, support and research.*

**FORT MYERS, Fla., November 28, 2023** – [VITAS Healthcare](#) will join the [Alzheimer's Association Central and Florida Gulf Coast chapter](#) as the 2023 [Walk to End Alzheimer's Lee County](#) presenting sponsor. The Walk will take place on Saturday, Dec. 2 at Florida SouthWestern College.

“In the State of Florida, the number of people aged 65 and older with dementia is expected to grow by 24.1% from 2020 to 2025. As a chronic and incurable disease, patients with Alzheimer's dementia represent a fast-growing group of hospice users,” said Bob Johnson, general manager at VITAS Healthcare in Southwest Florida. “VITAS is committed to bringing the latest innovations in end of life care to its patients and their caregivers. VITAS is also committed to providing patients' caregivers with support, which is why we are a proud sponsor of Walk to End Alzheimer's.”

More than 6 million Americans are living with Alzheimer's disease – a leading cause of death in the United States. Additionally, more than 11 million family members and friends provide care to people living with Alzheimer's and other dementias.

On Walk day, attendees honor those affected by Alzheimer's with the Promise Garden ceremony – a mission-focused experience that signifies participants' solidarity in the fight against the disease. The colors of the Promise Garden flowers represent participants' personal connections to Alzheimer's disease and the reasons they walk.

“Alzheimer's affects the lives of so many people across this country, including 580,000 individuals here in Florida,” said Carla Calavitta, Walk to End Alzheimer's manager in Lee and Collier counties. “With every step we take and every dollar we raise, we know we are that much closer to a world without Alzheimer's and all other dementia.”

To register and receive the latest updates for Walk to End Alzheimer's, visit [alz.org/LeeCountyWalk](https://alz.org/LeeCountyWalk).

**Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's®**

The Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's is the world's largest event to raise awareness and funds for Alzheimer's care, support and research. Since 1989, the Alzheimer's

Association mobilized millions of Americans in the Alzheimer's Association Memory Walk®; now the Alzheimer's Association is continuing to lead the way with Walk to End Alzheimer's. Together, we can end Alzheimer's.

**Alzheimer's Association®**

The Alzheimer's Association is a worldwide voluntary health organization dedicated to Alzheimer's care, support and research. Its mission is to lead the way to end Alzheimer's and all other dementia – by accelerating global research, driving risk reduction and early detection, and maximizing quality care and support. Visit [alz.org](http://alz.org) or call 800.272.3900.

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