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ABC 25'S EVENING ANCHOR LAUREN ADAMS TO EMCEE ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION WALK TO END ALZHEIMER'S BELL COUNTY ON OCT. 7

Walk to End Alzheimer's is World's Largest Event Dedicated to Alzheimer's Care, Support and Research

BELTON, TX, 9/20/23 – Lauren Adams, evening anchor for ABC 25 News, will return for her second year as emcee for the Walk to End Alzheimer's[®] Bell County in Belton at Liberty Park on Saturday, October 7, beginning at 9 a.m.

"It was great emceeing the Walk last year! It was wonderful to see all the support from the community and state leaders for such a devastating disease," said Adams. "There was so much love and laughter from the pre-Walk festivities to the final walker crossing the finish line."

On Walk day, participants honor those affected by Alzheimer's with the poignant Promise Garden ceremony — a mission-focused experience that signifies solidarity in the fight against the disease. The colors of the Promise Garden flowers represent people's connection to Alzheimer's — their personal reasons to end the disease. For Lauren — who is passionate about serving her community — the cause is personal.

"It's really meaningful to me to emcee the Walk because my aunt died of Alzheimer's at a young age. We watched as her health deteriorated for over a decade. When she passed away, the pastor said, 'This was the longest goodbye.' I'm grateful to be able to lend a hand in helping find a cure for such a robbing disease – it steals family memories, moments and loved ones," said Adams. "This Walk is so important not only to bring community awareness to the disease, but to raise funds to end the terrible illness."

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.

In Texas alone, there are more than 1 million people living with the disease and 400,000 caregivers. It's estimated that 11.7% of people over age 65 in Bell County have Alzheimer's Disease, one of the highest prevalence rates in the Central Texas area.

To learn more, register and receive the latest updates for this year's Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's Bell County, visit http://act.alz.org/bellco.

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 or call 800.272.3900.

Capital of Texas Chapter

As one of 75 chapters of the Alzheimer's Association, the <u>Capital of Texas Chapter</u> provides information, education and support to people with Alzheimer's and other dementias, their families and caregivers across 21 Central Texas counties.

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