



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Denver WALKs for the Hydrocephalus Association (HA)
Event to Raise Research Funds for Life-Threatening Brain Condition

Highlands Ranch, August 31 – More than 800 walkers from all over Colorado are expected to mobilize for the Hydrocephalus Association's 11th Annual Denver WALK **on Sunday, August 31, 2014 at 10 AM at Redstone Park, Highlands Ranch**. Money raised will support the HA's national goal to raise more than \$1.3 million for critical hydrocephalus research and education. Over one million Americans are affected by this condition and it is the most common reason for brain surgery in children. Join us for a fun day for a great cause!

Hydrocephalus is an abnormal accumulation of spinal fluid in the brain, and the most common treatment is insertion of a shunt to divert the spinal fluid to another part of the body. "There's no cure for hydrocephalus and the current treatment was developed in the 1950s. We need to raise money for research to find a cure and improve treatment options," says Phyllis Rogers, who is chairperson for the Denver WALK. "Anyone can develop hydrocephalus at any age and it's more prevalent than most people think. It's time to find a cure."

Phyllis' daughter developed hydrocephalus as a result of prematurity in 1992, and in 22 years, has endured 19 brain surgeries as a result of the condition. The summer of 2003 was a particularly difficult year, when her daughter endured 5 surgeries within a 3-week period. "Getting through the shock and the periods of uncertainty following diagnosis and multiple surgeries would not have been possible without the support provided by the Hydrocephalus Association."

The Denver HA WALK is a family-focused event, helping hydrocephalus families to connect with other families and to learn about resources available in our community. In addition to the 3-mile WALK, activities include face-painting, balloon-twisting, a silent auction, lunch and much more! Although the event is free, donations of any amount are appreciated. Donate \$50 to receive a 2014 WALK t-shirt. For more information on the Denver HA WALK, call (720) 984.7420. Pre-registration for the WALK is available at www.hawalk.kintera.org/Denver.

Sponsors for the 2014 WALK include Highlands Ranch Metro District, Walgreen's, The Egg & I Restaurants, The Redstone Group, Children's Hospital Colorado Neuroscience Institute, Bellco Credit Union, Elevation Reps of the Rockies and Hawkins Commercial Appliance Services, Inc. National Sponsors are Codman Neuro, Medtronic Neurologic Technologies, Aesculap Inc. and Sophysa USA.

Last year the Hydrocephalus Association WALKs raised more than \$1.1 million from 32 sites. This year fundraising is expected to top \$1.3 million. All Hydrocephalus Association WALKs are coordinated and run solely by volunteers with all of the proceeds used to eliminate the challenges of hydrocephalus by funding critical research and program services. Founded in 1983 by the parents of children with hydrocephalus, the Hydrocephalus Association is the nation's largest and most widely respected organization dedicated to hydrocephalus. More than 60 percent of HA's funding comes from individual donations and events, and approximately 35 percent comes from foundation and corporate grants. For more information, visit the Hydrocephalus Association web site at www.hydroassoc.org or call (888) 598-3789.

###

Contact:

Phyllis Rogers
303.346.9566/720.984.7420
hydropr2@comcast.net