



Monday, August 20, 2001

OU gearing up to host Heart Walk

Once again, Oakland University is joining forces with the American Heart Association to create awareness, educate and raise money for heart disease and stroke research by hosting the American Heart Walk Saturday, September 22.

Several pre-event fund-raisers also are being held to help raise money. Dress-Down Days, where OU faculty and staff may dress casually for \$3 a day, are taking place every Thursday until August 30. Also, every Monday, Wednesday and Friday containers are placed in various locations around campus for collecting spare change. Last year the spare change drive raised more than \$800 toward OU's fund-raising goal.

"We are looking forward to another great Heart Walk and getting full participation from the students, faculty and staff," said Glenn McIntosh, assistant vice president for Student Affairs and dean of students. "We have a great opportunity as a campus community to show our support to those who are living with or have lost someone to heart disease or stroke, and to raise money for research and community education programs."

Last year's Heart Walk brought more than 13,000 walkers to campus and raised more than \$1 million in the fight against heart disease and stroke. This year, the goal is set to bring 17,000 walkers to the campus and to raise \$1.65 million.

"This year's Metro-Detroit American Heart Walk is already on track to once again be the nation's largest both in walker participation and money raised," said Paul Kalil, vice president of Corporate Events for the American Heart Association, "Oakland University's campus is a beautiful place to hold the walk, and we are looking forward to having a fun-filled day."

Festivities begin at 7:30 a.m. with bagels and juice and a warm-up program. The walk starts at 9 a.m. There will be activities for children of all ages and informational tents open before and after the walk. Subway, presenting sponsor for all American Heart Walks in Michigan, will provide food after the event.

For more information on how to get involved or to sign-up to be a walker, please call Oakland University's Office of Equity at (248) 370-4404 or e-mail McIntosh at mcintosh@oakland.edu.

SUMMARY

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