



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 29, 2010

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Memorial's Sixth Annual 5K Run/Walk to Benefit Kidney, Pancreas Transplant Patients

SPRINGFIELD – Memorial Medical Center's sixth annual 5K Transplant Run/Walk to benefit kidney and pancreas transplant patients will begin at 8 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 18, in Washington Park in Springfield.

Registration begins at 7 a.m. The registration fee is \$20 for adults and \$10 for 12-year-olds and younger. Participants will meet at the picnic shelter area near the tennis courts and playground.

Memorial's Transplant Services is the event's host. Proceeds benefit the transplant patient assistance fund at Memorial, which provides patients in financial need with medication and other medical needs that may arise during or after a transplant.

Registrations are recommended to be turned in by Aug. 23, but participants can also sign up on the day of the event.

"Memorial's transplant services team is dedicated to helping our patients maintain healthy, transplanted organs," Rebecca Anderson, director of transplant services at Memorial, said. "We're proud to have a patient assistance fund to help people with emergent needs."

The transplant team follows and manages the care of approximately 300 post-transplant patients. The transplant program is a cooperative initiative involving Memorial Medical Center, Southern Illinois University School of Medicine and Springfield Clinic. Since its founding in 1972, the program has completed more than 750 kidney and pancreas transplants.

An estimated 300 people participated in last year's event, including transplant recipients, living donors and families of deceased donors. The five previous runs raised a combined total of \$70,000.

For more information, call Memorial's Transplant Services at (217) 788-3441. To register online, visit [MemorialMedical.com/TransplantWalk](https://www.MemorialMedical.com/TransplantWalk).

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