



In honor of Childhood Cancer Awareness month, Heroes for Children and Wipe Out Kids' Cancer are partnering to host the Heart of Gold 5K Run for the Children on Saturday, September 16 at Galatyn Plaza in Richardson.

"Over the last five years, we have served 33 percent of the same families," said Larissa Linton, Co-Founder and Executive Director of Heroes for Children. "It seems natural that we come together to support and celebrate these families together."

Cancer remains the No. 1 disease killer in children in America today, and less than 5 percent of government funding is focused on exclusively pediatric cancer. While children are physically fighting the disease and enduring treatments, families are also heavily burdened by the emotional strain of this terrible diagnosis. Social support services provided by Heroes for Children and Wipe Out Kids' Cancer are critical. They provide a sense of community for those experiencing the same challenges and a way to escape and enjoy normal life. This is essential to the healing and coping process, not only for the child enduring the disease, but for the entire family.

"With so much work to be done, progress will only happen when we all come together to fight for those who need it most," said Chandini Portteus, president and CEO of Wipe Out Kids' Cancer. "What is increasingly clear is that when we partner together, we can accomplish more. More progress to cures, more access to social solutions and ultimately a cure for this disease."

Participating in the Heart of Gold 5K Run for the Children & Fun Run means you are helping to fund research for a cure and providing support services to families with a child battling cancer. We will have a special area dedicated to survivors, caretakers, supporters and in memory of those who have lost their battle.

Following the commemorative balloon release, participants of all ages can join in the Fun Run & 5K. Entertainment features a DJ and an Kids Adventure Zone with a Ninja Warrior Kids Obstacle Course, games, activities, and a special area to honor and remember children who have battled cancer. The Heart of Gold 5K & Fun Run will also include prizes, awards, giveaways and food.

#### Early Bird Registration by September 14

- Adults: \$30
- Children 12 and younger: \$15

#### Race Day Registration

- Adults: \$40
- Children 12 and younger: \$25

#### Virtual Runner

- \$30 for those unable to attend the event but who want a t-shirt

Participants are also able to create a team and fundraise to support, honor and remember children battling cancer. Encourage and inspire your family, friends, colleagues and students to join your team and help support your fundraising goals!

