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For Immediate Release

Baptist Health Sponsors Little Rock Half Marathon for 15th Year

LITTLE ROCK, AR (Sep. 15, 2017) – For the 15th consecutive year, [Baptist Health](#) will serve as the presenting sponsor of the Little Rock Half Marathon. The Little Rock Half Marathon, presented by Baptist Health, is part of the 16th Annual Little Rock Marathon Race Weekend, presented by the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*, to be held March 2 – 4 in downtown Little Rock and benefits Little Rock Parks & Recreation.

With more than 175 points of access and nine hospitals across the state, including the newly opened Baptist Health Medical Center-Conway, Baptist Health is Arkansas' Leader in Healthcare and is committed to delivering "All Our Best" in health care to the people of Arkansas.

More than 14,000 participants and an estimated 30,000 spectators will descend on central Arkansas for five road races and a two-day health and fitness expo.

"Baptist Health has been the presenting sponsor of the Little Rock Half Marathon since its inception in 2004," said Gina Pharis, co-executive director of the Little Rock Marathon. "Our continued relationship with Baptist Health speaks volumes about its strong commitment to promoting healthy lifestyles through distance running and walking."

Race weekend includes the Little Rock Marathon Health & Fitness Expo, presented by Heifer International; the Little Rock Marathon; the Little Rock Half Marathon, presented by Baptist Health; the Little Rock 10K; the Little Rock 5K Fun Run/Walk and the Little Rockers Kids Marathon Final Mile, presented by Delta Dental.

For more information about deadlines, details and the race, visit littlerockmarathon.com.

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About Baptist Health

Baptist Health exists to provide quality patient-centered services, promote and protect the voluntary not-for-profit health care system, provide quality health education and respond to the changing needs of the citizens of Arkansas with Christian compassion and personal concern consistent with our charitable purpose.

About Little Rock Marathon

The mission of the Little Rock Marathon is provide a premier event open to athletes of all abilities, while promoting a healthy lifestyle through running and walking and raising money for Little Rock Parks & Recreation. Since inception in 2003, more than \$887,000 has been donated to Little Rock Parks & Recreation. Little Rock Marathon Race Weekend is held the first weekend in March each year and includes a marathon, half marathon, 10K, 5K run/walk, a children's mile and a free two-day health and fitness expo. With an estimated \$6 million in local spending annually, more than 140,000 individuals have participated in a Little Rock Marathon race, sponsored event, or free training program. This has been achieved through school-based programs, community outreach, partnerships with running/walking groups across the country and passionate grass roots promotion.