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Mayors Step Up to Recognize Men's Health Week: June 10-16

(Washington, DC) – Mayors throughout the nation are promoting Men's Health Week (www.menshealthweek.org) as a means of raising awareness about the health challenges faced by men and boys. This week is a special awareness period first recognized by Congress in 1994 and celebrated around the globe since 2002. The goal is to educate men, boys, and those who love them about preventable health problems and to encourage them to get more actively involved in their own health care. Early detection and treatment save lives.

"We want to thank the many mayors who have join in to celebrate Men's Health Week in their cities," said Ana Fadich, MHN Vice President. "By focusing on the health and well-being of men and boys in their own communities, they are able to encourage others to also pay more attention to the health of the men in their lives. Healthier men lead to stronger and happier families."

Men's Health Week gives health care providers, public policy makers, the media, and individuals an opportunity to encourage men and boys to seek regular medical advice and early treatment for disease and injury. The response has been overwhelming with hundreds of awareness activities in the USA and around the globe.

"During my career in the NBA, it was always a priority to make sure I was in top physical condition. Now as mayor I am glad that I could add my voice to that of Men's Health Network to break the silence and raise awareness of this very important issue in our community – the health and well-being of men and boys," said Mayor Kevin Johnson of Sacramento. "I encourage everyone in our community, in particular the men, to go in for a checkup."

"We recognize the importance of improving the health and well-being of men and boys in our city; when we raise healthier boys who turn into healthy adults, families in our communities become stronger as well," said Mayor R.T. Rybak of Minneapolis. "I invite all citizens of Minneapolis to celebrate Men's Health Week in June by going in for a checkup or by setting an appointment for the men you care about."

"Men's Health Week in Cleveland will focus on a broad range of men's health issues including, heart disease, diabetes, prostate, testicular and colon cancer," said Cleveland Mayor, Frank G. Jackson, in the proclamation. "The city of Cleveland Department of Public Health will continue its efforts to raise awareness about the importance of a healthy lifestyle, regular exercise and medical check-ups in the Cleveland community."

Copies of proclamations from Mayors can be found at www.menshealthmonth.org/week/proclamation.

Men's Health Week is organized by <u>Men's Health Network</u> (MHN), a national non-profit organization whose mission is to reach men, boys, and their families where they live, work, play, and pray with health prevention messages and tools, screening programs, educational materials, advocacy opportunities, and patient navigation. Learn more about MHN at <u>www.menshealthnetwork.org</u> and follow them on Twitter @MensHlthNetwork and <u>facebook.com/menshealthnetwork</u>

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