

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **The Beat Goes On 5K Announces Strategic Partnership to Expand Community Impact Across Saline County**

**BENTON, Ark.** — The Beat Goes On 5K, a long-standing Saline County tradition promoting heart health and community wellness, is entering an exciting new chapter through a strategic partnership between Saline Health System and the Tea Rose Community Collaborative. Together, the organizations are expanding the event's impact by supporting educational opportunities and improving access to food and nutrition resources.

For years, the Beat Goes On 5K has brought together runners, walkers, families and community supporters to celebrate heart health. The race begins on the hospital campus at 9 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 19 and features a scenic route through historic downtown Benton.

Through this strategic partnership, proceeds from the event will benefit two important community initiatives: scholarships for Saline County students pursuing higher education in the medical field and Saline Memorial Hospital's new Food Is Medicine Choice Pantry, an official Arkansas Foodbank partner pantry.

Opening Aug. 12, the pantry will provide access to nutritious foods and nutrition resources for individuals referred by healthcare providers throughout the community.

"This strategic partnership reflects our shared commitment to building a healthier, stronger Saline County," said Teri Todd, President of the Tea Rose Community Collaborative. "By combining our resources and community networks, we're creating opportunities that extend far beyond race day by supporting local students, strengthening families and helping ensure our neighbors have access to nutritious food when they need it most."

Organizers are currently seeking sponsors, corporate partners and community supporters to continue the Beat Goes On 5K's tradition of success. Sponsorship opportunities offer businesses and organizations meaningful community visibility while directly supporting scholarships for local students and the Food Is Medicine Choice Pantry.

Community members are encouraged to participate as runners, walkers, volunteers, sponsors or donors to help make this year's event the most successful yet. Race registration is now open at <https://runsignup.com/Race/AR/Benton/TheBeatGoesOn5K>.

"Running this race is about more than miles," said Char Boulch, CEO of Saline Health System. "It's a chance to take care of your heart, celebrate the strength of our community and show up for the people who count on us. Every step you take helps build a healthier Saline County."

**About Tea Rose Community Collaborative**

*The Tea Rose Community Collaborative, the charitable foundation affiliated with Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®, Alpha Alpha Rho Omega Chapter, is dedicated to advancing education, health, and community service throughout Saline County.*

*To learn more about the Tea Rose Community Collaborative, the affiliated foundation of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated®, Alpha Alpha Rho Omega Chapter, visit [www.salineaka.org](http://www.salineaka.org).*

### **About Saline Memorial Hospital**

Saline Health System, a part of Lifepoint Health, is made up of Saline Memorial Hospital, a 177-bed acute care facility, and Saline Clinics, a network of primary care and specialty clinics. Saline Memorial Hospital has been caring for Saline County and its surrounding communities for more than 70 years. Saline Memorial Hospital is proud to be recognized as a Leapfrog Grade “A” Hospital for its commitment to patient safety. The hospital is accredited through The Joint Commission for meeting quality and safety standards, the American College of Cardiology as a Chest Pain Center, the MBSAQIP as a bariatric surgery center, Optum in the Bariatric Centers of Excellence network, CARF as a rehabilitation center and the AASM as a sleep center.

More information about Saline Memorial Hospital is available at 501.776.6000 or online at SalineMemorial.org. More information about Lifepoint Health is available at LifepointHealth.net.

### **Media Contact**

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Race Registration: <https://runsignup.com/Race/AR/Benton/TheBeatGoesOn5K>