



## Media Release

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## Making Kane Fit for Kids Celebrates Walk to School Day 2016!

**On October 5, 2016, Walk to School Day** will once again be the catalyst for encouraging physical activity for thousands of students in Kane County. Last year more than 60 schools participated, representing all nine school districts. Nearly a third of all participating schools in Illinois were from Kane County.

**International Walk to School Day is an annual global event involving** communities from more than 40 countries walking or biking to school on the same day. In the United States, Walk to School Day is expected to include more than 5,000 events across all 50 states.

**As a local host of Walk to School Day for the seventh year, Making Kane Fit for Kids** invites Kane County elementary and middle schools to participate and provides funding to PTOs or Schools to organize walks. Walking to school incorporates the regular physical activity children need daily while igniting a routine culture of healthy habits at school and home.

**Making Kane Fit for Kids goal to reduce Childhood Obesity includes guiding efforts on the local level through countywide mobilization.** Fit for Kids strategies affect all of Kane County children, families, and communities. The **Fit for Kids Funders' Consortium** leads and funds these efforts and includes the **United Way of Elgin, Fox Valley United Way, Rush-Copley Foundation, Kane County Health Department, Kane County Division of Transportation and the Community Foundation of the Fox River Valley.** Working with schools to create environments that support healthy behaviors is proven to not only make kids healthier, but it also helps them become better learners.

**A strong countywide group of Sponsors supported Walk to School Day 2016.** Making Kane Fit for Kids applauds six Kane County Rotaries that teamed up to become Walk to School Day's **Title Sponsor - Carpentersville Morning Rotary, Elgin Noon Rotary, St. Charles Noon Rotary, Geneva Rotary, Batavia Rotary, and Aurora Noon Rotary.** Equally important, we thank our additional Sponsors who augmented Walk to School Day 2016's impact to be at its greatest level yet – **Advocate Sherman Hospital, City of Aurora, City of Elgin, Sodexo, Dundee Township Park District, Shodeen Foundation, Meijer, and Nicor Gas.**

For all Kane county Elementary or Middle Schools – **There is still time to sign up for Walk to School Day!** Register at [www.makingkanefitforkids.org](http://www.makingkanefitforkids.org).