



Festival of Heroes Press Release

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Joe Gibbs Announced as 2009 Festival of Heroes Honorary Chair

Former Redskins Coach leading effort to help raise money to support the Cancer Programs at Children's National

Washington, D.C. – Festival of Heroes, the premier fundraising event for the Cancer Program at Children's National Medical Center, announced today that Joe Gibbs will be the Honorary Chair for the 2009 Festival of Heroes.

Festival of Heroes is a night of cocktails, dinner and dancing that will be held this year on Saturday, November 14 at the Bethesda North Marriott. The event is co-chaired by Deidre Adkins, who founded the event in 2007, and Allison Portnoy. This year, Festival of Heroes aims to raise more than \$250,000 to support the efforts at Children's National to cure childhood cancer.

"I am proud to support Festival of Heroes and Children's National," said Joe Gibbs. "In 2007, my grandson Taylor was diagnosed with leukemia so I know the important role that the hospital and caregivers play during a child's treatment. The team of doctors, nurses and researchers at Children's National, led by Dr. Max Coppes and Dr. Jeff Dome, is top-notch. I am pleased to stand behind them as they expand the Cancer Program at Children's National to a comprehensive cancer center for children."

"We are extremely pleased to welcome Joe to our team," stated Dr. Max Coppes, Senior Vice President of the Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders at Children's National. "Joe knows a thing or two about building a team that the whole city can be proud of and that is exactly what we are doing at Children's National. Over the past year, we have recruited some of the best and brightest in the field of pediatric oncology in an effort to expand the Cancer Program and create an unparalleled treatment facility for parents and children who visit us at Children's National. With the help of heroes like Joe and our other supporters, we will help make our vision of finding a cure for childhood cancer a reality."

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