



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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LUTHERAN HOSPITAL PLEDGES \$150,000 TO ABOITE TRAILS AS MATCHING INCENTIVE FOR MEDICAL STAFF PHYSICIANS

FORT WAYNE, Ind., June 20, 2005 – Lutheran Hospital and its Board of Directors announced a \$150,000 pledge to Aboite New Trails, making it the trail group's largest community donor so far, announced Lynn Reecer, president, Aboite New Trails. The \$150,000 pledge is positioned as a matching donation, encouraging its medical staff physicians to donate to Aboite New Trails. The letters to the physicians will be mailed later this month.

"Lutheran is truly committed to this community, so it seems a natural fit for them to take the lead in this fundraising campaign," said Reecer. "Lutheran and its physicians understand what trails can mean for its patients, its staff, and their families, as well as for this community. Through this matching program we could exponentially raise Lutheran's sizeable donation and put a lot of trails on the map. We couldn't be happier."

"We understand the positive impact a safe network of trails can have on a community and its citizens," said Tom Miller, chief executive officer, Lutheran Hospital. "This exciting endeavor is another tool to help physicians encourage healthier lifestyles for their patients. The collective money raised from this matching program will really make a difference in the Aboite New Trails initiative."

The matching program will begin in late June and will end later in the summer. ANT began its formal fundraising campaign in January, 2005 and has secured over \$1.5 million in committed projects from various government entities and now over \$250,000 in cash donations from individuals and organizations. –more--

Created in December 2001, Aboite New Trails, Inc. is an all-volunteer dynamic, not-for-profit corporation whose mission is to improve the quality of life for Aboite citizens through the creation of nearly 50 miles of multi-use trails. --end--