FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Oregon 4-H Launches New Healthy Living Program Through Walmart Foundation Grant

CHEVY CHASE, MD— Oregon has received a $50,000 from the Wal-Mart Foundation have to launch Youth Voice: Youth Choice, an exciting program created by the National 4-H Council that encourages young people to develop and maintain healthy, active lifestyles. The program will tackle wellness issues such as nutrition, physical fitness, and safety.

Youth Voice: Youth Choice participants in Eastern Oregon will work in tandem with land-grant university experts and 4-H volunteers to mobilize other young people and get them excited about living healthy lifestyles. Youth are then empowered to create action plans to share with their county commissioners, school boards, health caucuses, and state legislative offices. The action plans will identify and overcome the barriers to healthy living and raise public awareness for wellness, as well as encourage the development of partnerships with local stakeholders to expand wellness initiatives in Oregon.

“Health is the fourth 'H' in the 4-H pledge,” said Donald T. Floyd, Jr., National 4-H Council President and CEO. “As a national leader in health-related issues, 4-H is already reaching 2.5 million youth in all 50 states with nutrition and wellness programs, providing opportunities to build confidence and healthier lifestyles. With this generous new grant, we will be able to reach even more young people with these important messages.”

The Oregon project “Attitudes for Success” is based out of the Umatilla County Extension 4-H Department. “Attitudes for Success” is designed to teach local youth how to make healthy nutrition and physical fitness choices. Interactive classes, a regional conference and nutrition/fitness website are being developed with support from the Walmart Foundation. Local Extension 4-H Agent, Patricia Dawson indicates that the program is designed to serve over 500 youth in the Eastern Oregon Region.

“The Walmart Foundation is committed to improving the lives of young people and the communities in which they live,” said Margaret McKenna, President of the Walmart Foundation. “The Foundation is proud to support the inventive programs Oregon developed for 4-H and the impact those programs will have on the health of both participants and their communities.”
About 4-H

4-H is a community of six million young people across America learning leadership, citizenship, and life skills. National 4-H Council is the private sector, non-profit partner of National 4-H Headquarters (USDA). The 4-H programs are implemented by the 106 Land-Grant Universities and the Cooperative Extension System through their 3,100 local Extension offices across the country. Learn more about 4-H at www.4-H.org.

About Philanthropy at Walmart Stores, Inc.

Walmart Stores, Inc. (NYSE: WMT) and the Walmart Foundation are proud to support the charitable causes that are important to customers and associates in their own neighborhoods. Through its philanthropic programs and partnerships, the Walmart Foundation funds initiatives focused on creating opportunities in education, workforce development, economic opportunity, environmental sustainability, and health and wellness. From February 1, 2008 through January 31, 2009, Walmart – and its domestic and international foundations – gave more than $423 million in cash and in-kind gifts globally. To learn more, visit www.walmartfoundation.org.

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