

For Immediate Release, March 31, 2009

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1st Annual Take a Hike! for your Community a success despite unseasonable Weather

McKinney, Texas may have experienced weather uncharacteristic of Spring on Saturday, March 28th, with wind-chills dipping into the 20s and snow flurries, but this did not prohibit over 400 philanthropic citizens who still showed up to participate in *Take a Hike! for your Community*, a collaborative community fundraiser sponsored by the Heard Natural Science Museum & Wildlife Sanctuary and Volunteer McKinney Center.

Take a Hike! participants hiked the Heard to raise funds for their favorite local participating partner organizations. Guests at this event received a free continental breakfast, participated in children's activities, enjoyed live entertainment and free museum admission for the day, and received a free t-shirt and water bottle. Many participants even received great giveaways from local organizations! Hikers had the option of choosing a half mile, mile, or one-and-a-half mile trail to hike on and experienced the beautiful Heard sanctuary while they supported the community at this fun family event.

Hikers also had the opportunity to challenge themselves on the new Heard Ropes Course at this month's Open to the Public Day. They experienced three exciting elements including a 110 ft. rock climb, a 500 ft. zip line and a power pole, and got the chance to win two free ropes course tickets.

Thank you to our Sponsors!

Breakfast made possible by:

Pat Lobb Toyota
Chick Fil A
McDonalds
OfficePerks

Water bottles made possible by:

Independent Bank
Kroger

Event Bags and Kid's Activities made possible by:

REI
Jumpin' for Joy
Texas Backyard Parties
Cathy's Critters

Organizations that participated in Take a Hike!

3E McKinney
American Red Cross – McKinney
Avenues Counseling Center
Big Brothers Big Sisters
Chestnut Square Historical Village

Collin County Committee on Aging (Meals on Wheels)
Collin County Studies in Free Enterprise (SIFE)
Community Lifeline Center
Crape Myrtle Trails of McKinney
Cross Timbers Youth Orchestra
Grace Lake Ministries
Heard Natural Science Museum
ManeGait
McKinney Christian Academy
McKinney Education Foundation
Morning Pride Lions Club
Mothers Against Drunk Driving North Texas
North Collin County Habitat for Humanity
The Samaritan Inn
Scott Johnson Middle School Avid Class
Turning Point Rape Crisis Center
Visiting Nurses Association
Volunteer McKinney Center

More than 400 people braved the weather Saturday morning, March 28th for Take a Hike!





Angela Baron, Heard Educator educated visitors about corn snakes.

