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Ninth Annual Kingston “Bike for Cancer Care” Raised Over \$100,000

Kingston, N.Y. – Sept. 25, 2012 – Over 350 riders turned out to show their support of the **9th Annual Bike for Cancer Care** held on Sunday, September 16, 2012, to benefit the **Benedictine Health Foundation’s Rosemary D. Gruner Memorial Cancer Fund**. The event was held at Dietz Stadium in Kingston, and featured a Bike Rodeo for children ages 5 – 10 within Dietz Stadium, a family ride throughout historic uptown Kingston and a new 12-mile ride and 25- and 50-mile routes for more avid cyclists. At the end of the day, riders and volunteers celebrated the success of raising just over \$100,000 at a finish line BBQ and awards ceremony.

Dan Gruner, the event chair, said the ride was founded in memory of his mother, who passed away after a battle with cancer.

“On behalf of my family, I would like to extend our deep gratitude to all the sponsors, riders, volunteers and law enforcement agencies for making this year’s ride such a success,” Gruner said. “More importantly, everyone helped us help those who are fighting cancer in our community.”

In partnership with the Benedictine Health Foundation, the **Rosemary D. Gruner Memorial Cancer Fund** was established in 2004 to aid in the treatment, care, and support of cancer patients in financial need. The Fund provides assistance to eligible patients who are residents of Ulster County regardless of the facility where they receive treatment, and residents of neighboring Hudson Valley Counties who receive treatment within Ulster County. Since being established in 2004, the fund has assisted over 900 patients by providing gift cards to purchase nutritious food and/or fuel cards so that patients may access treatment.

Special thanks to our **Platinum Sponsors**: Anita Williams Peck, Cumulus Broadcasting, Hannaford Supermarkets, Murphy Healthcare Group, River Radiology, and Timely Signs of Kingston; **Gold Sponsors**: Bruderhof, Colonial Roofing & Siding, M&T Bank, Rondout Savings Bank, Stewart's Shops, and Ulster Savings Bank; **Silver Sponsors**: Ozzie & Kathy Beichert, Empire BlueCross BlueShield, Gillette Creamery, Kingston Kiwanis Club, Mobile Life Support Services, New York Communications Company, Orthopedic Associates of Dutchess County, Rose & Kiernan, Ryan & Ryan Insurance Brokers, Inc./Erie Insurance Group, and The Valley Group.

About Benedictine Health Foundation

The Benedictine Health Foundation supports the healthcare programs, services, and facilities of Benedictine Hospital, a member of HealthAlliance of the Hudson Valley®. For further information, contact Barbara Klassen, Executive Director, at (845) 334-3186.

About HealthAlliance of the Hudson Valley®

HealthAlliance of the Hudson Valley® is the alignment of Benedictine Hospital (150-bed acute care facility), Kingston Hospital (150-bed acute care facility), Margaretville Hospital (15-bed critical access facility), Mountainside Residential Care Center (82-bed skilled nursing facility) and Woodland Pond at New Paltz (continuing care retirement community). As the parent organization, HealthAlliance provides a unified governance structure, while still allowing each hospital to continue as a separate and distinct corporation. The goal of HealthAlliance is to strengthen the quality of care and bring forward enhanced technology to serve the present and future healthcare needs in the Hudson Valley. HealthAlliance and its affiliate facilities are committed to providing compassionate, patient-centered care and ensuring patient safety, privacy and dignity to all. For further information about HealthAlliance visit our website at www.HAHV.org.

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