# The HEALTHY WORKPLACE

#### Strategies for Workplace Fitness That Help the Bottom Line

eart disease is the number-one killer in the U.S., and physical inactivity doubles the risk. Studies suggest that implementing a worksite physical activity program can help companies increase productivity, reduce absenteeism, lower turnover and reduce healthcare costs.

The American Heart Association's Start! initiative calls on all Americans and their employers to create a culture of physical activity and health to live longer, heart-healthier lives through walking. At its core is the Start! Fit-Friendly Companies Recognition Program.

The program recognizes employers that champion the health of their employees by offering physical activity programs within the workplace. The program also provides encouragement and resources for companies that seek to improve their employees' health and well-being. Since it was launched in 2007, the nationwide initiative has recognized more than 1,000 companies as Start! Fit-Friendly Companies.

Gold-level status is awarded to companies that meet the Fit-Friendly criteria. Companies that take the program a step further and demonstrate successful outcomes or ROI from their wellness programs receive platinum-level recognition.

"It's good business to have physically fit workers," says David Josserand, executive vice president and chief strategic officer of The Dalton Agency in Jacksonville, Fla., and 2008-2009 national chairman for the American Heart Association (AHA). "A recent four-year study reported in the *Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine* found that employers can save \$1.65 in healthcare expenses for every dollar they invest in fitness programs. Reducing just *one* health risk in a workplace can increase productivity by 9%."





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#### Introduction by Kip Cleland



Kip Cleland is fitness director for Forbes Media LLC and a personal trainer. He holds a bachelor's degree in health, physical education and recreation, and a master's degree in adult fitness management. He is a Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist (CSCS).



#### A Free Resource for Employers

"The Start! initiative isn't about creating physical champions," explains AHA's Josserand. "It's designed to help companies create a culture where employees are motivated to become a little more fit and active than they are today. I think companies understand the value of that. Yet it has to be done efficiently. Start! participants get access to free employee resources, including a walking program and online fitness tracker. As an employer, I look at that free program and realize I can implement it without having to manage it."

"We support and encourage the American Heart Association's mission to help people live longer, stronger and healthier lives," says Elmer Doty, chief executive officer of Dallas-based **Vought Aircraft Industries**, a Start! platinum-level company. "The AHA has been a great resource for our wellness program. Vought employees are

alcolm Forbes hired me in 1972 to start a corporate fitness program for his company. He had just written a column about how Japanese workers took afternoon breaks for calisthenics. I had planned to be a secondary school gym teacher. But instead, I've been teaching adult fitness for my entire career. We started our program in a small room on the fourth floor of the Forbes Building. In 1987, we moved to the penthouse and now have a 3,500-square-foot facility with lockers, showers, equipment and space for classes. Forbes employees are fortunate to have such a facility, but not every company needs a full gym.

One of the keys to a successful in-house fitness program is making it readily available. With long workdays and long commutes, it's hard to carve out time to exercise. That's why the American Heart Association wants to see more companies provide accessible and innovative fitness options for their employees.

People know they should exercise. They know it's good for their heart and their overall health. But many don't know *how* to exercise. One person might need to work on weight loss, while another may be ready for higher-intensity cardio work or a strength-training program. One plan doesn't fit everyone. Consistency is important, so there should be motivation to continue. Cost can be a barrier, so companies that make it affordable — not necessarily free — are more likely to have greater participation.

At Forbes, we offer a lot of variety. We have Pilates mat classes, yoga, salsa lessons, lunchtime walkers club, circuit training, a weight loss and maintenance program and CPR training, to name a few. We make it fun, with team competitions. The camaraderie makes the program work. When everyone is in their workout clothes, people get to know each other better.

Forbes is just one example of how a company can create a culture of wellness. In this special section, you'll learn how organizations across the U.S. are getting people moving and motivated. Corporate leaders and their teams are walking, stretching and cycling. They're choosing healthier foods and holding weight loss challenges. They're using interactive technology and wellness coaches to educate and motivate. Their achievements are great idea-starters for companies of any size.

achieving exceptional results through a variety of heart-healthy activities. We know that by encouraging regular exercise and proper diet, our employees are more likely to feel energized both on and off the job. It's a winwin for everyone."

In 2007, Vought implemented a program that aims to reduce health risk factors for employees and their families more than 50% by 2010. Healthcare consultants work with employees who are battling chronic illness, helping them understand and manage their health conditions.

#### **Challenging Employees to Participate**

The goal of the AstraZeneca Treadmill Challenge was to keep an office treadmill moving constantly from 6:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. every day for a week. Employees signed up for 15-minute increments to earn a chance to win a PreCor treadmill.

AstraZeneca, with U.S. headquarters in Wilmington, Del., has been recognized as a leader for supporting innovative corporate wellness initiatives. "As a healthcare company dedicated to improving the health of people globally, the job starts locally with our own employees," says Tony Zook, president and chief executive officer, AstraZeneca Pharmaceuticals LP. As one of three national sponsors of the Start! initiative, AstraZeneca encourages its employees to incorporate exercise into their workday with lunchtime walking programs and access to on-site fitness facilities. Other motivating heart-healthy activities include indoor and outdoor walking trails, team walking competitions and a 5K run/walk around the Wilmington campus perimeter.

AstraZeneca began offering all employees a Health Risk Assessment (HRA) in 2005 along with help to address identified risks. Support includes free phone-based Lifestyle Coaching for counseling on nutrition, stress management, healthy weight/exercise and tobacco cessation. In its health incentive program, AstraZeneca rewards employees with redeemable points for making healthy choices. The proactive programming is successfully driving employee ownership of health issues. In 2007, 98.6% of employees participated.

#### Combining Good Nutrition And Activity Choices

The Healthy Choice brand of **ConAgra Foods** was created in 1988 after the company's then-CEO suffered a mild heart attack. Since then, Healthy Choice has signed on as a national sponsor of Start! In 2007, ConAgra funded the expansion of a public walking/biking trail next to its downtown Omaha headquarters.

In 2000, **Duke Medicine** in Durham, N.C., developed an on-site Farmers Market to help employees get more fruits, vegetables and fiber in their diets. The market also offers music and food-related demonstrations. Since it began, 89% of the employees who attend report that they are motivated to eat more fruits and vegetables, and 92% say the Farmers Market contributes to making Duke a desirable place to work. A mobile market was added in 2006 to make local produce even more accessible to the Duke workforce. In a survey of participants, 90% reported the mobile market improved their overall health. The markets are part of a comprehensive healthcare transformation effort at Duke.

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"The most valuable result of our wellness initiatives is the message that is sent to our employees: that they matter and they are an important resource," says Victor J. Dzau, MD, chancellor for health affairs and chief executive officer, Duke University Health System. "The health of the individual is inseparable from the health of the organization. If health promotion is done right, it not only lets your employees know you care about them, it can provide a strong ROI."

#### **Rewards, Discounts Effective**

Edward Hospital and Health Services, Naperville, Ill., offers a healthy lifestyle incentive program in which its 4,500 employees can earn points toward massages, fitness equipment, gift certificates and other rewards. Qualifying activities include exercise at the hospital's health and fitness centers or on their own, smoking cessation classes, weight loss and maintenance program, CPR certification, blood donation and many other health-related programs. The hospital's comprehensive "Well at Work" health program employs two dedicated employees and enlists a volunteer advisory committee to roll out innovative programs.

Empowering employees to assess their own health risks is a key part of Edward Hospital's (continued on page 8)

Below: Active leadership is what it is all about at Duncan Aviation. President Aaron Hilkemann (far left) leads his senior management team as they participate in "Get In, Get Out, Get Fit," a 30-minute interval circuit training class provided by the wellness staff.



### Start! Fit-Friendly Fast Facts

#### FPL Group, Fla.

At FPL Group in Juno Beach, Fla., 1,033 employees at 63 sites participated in the 2007 Walktober Challenge. Tracking distances people walked using an online program, they logged nearly 34,000 miles in one month.

#### Bell Helicopter, Tex.

Since the inception of Bell Helicopter Textron Inc.'s wellness program in 1998, the percentage of employees at risk for physical inactivity has decreased from 83% to 41% today.

#### Brookhaven National Laboratory, N.Y.

After Brookhaven National Laboratory's "Spring into Color" nutrition and exercise awareness program, 78% of participants reported they had increased energy and 50% said they were more productive at work.

#### **Concord Hospital, N.H.**

Concord Hospital in Concord, N.H., lowered its monthly per-employee healthcare cost from \$758 to \$719 by implementing "Take Charge of Your Health," a comprehensive health and wellness program for employees.

#### Guardian Industries, Mich.

Glass manufacturer Guardian Industries in Auburn Hills, Mich., uses an opt-out versus an opt-in model for its workplace fitness program, assigning all employees to a team. Guardian has found that employees get involved and stay involved because they don't want to let their team down. Most programs get 90% to 100% participation.

#### City of Fort Worth, Tex.

Seven years into its Healthy Challenge Wellness Program, begun in 2002, the City of Fort Worth, Tex., has not had an increase in its employee health insurance premiums since 2005.

#### Lincoln Industries, Neb.

Lincoln Industries, which provides a fully integrated approach to metal finishing, reports a positive return of 5 to 1 on its investment in employee wellness programs, and all 555 of its employees participate.

#### DES Architects + Engineers, Redwood City, Calif.

DES engages employees in fitness activities with "Hunt for Health," a creative scavenger hunt. Teams compete to earn points. More than 90% of employees participate.



The Minneapolis-St. Paul airport launched the first Start! airport walking path in 2007, allowing travelers to fit in physical activity between flights on a 1.4 mile walking path.





## **2008 Start!** Fit-Friendly Companies

These workplaces have been recognized by the American Heart Association for meeting criteria for employee fitness.

#### Platinum

Alta Bates Summit Medical Center\* Admiral Express Office Supply American Heart Association National Center Western States Affiliate\* Arkansas Blue Cross and Blue Shield AstraZeneca Baptist Health South Florida Beaumont Hospitals\* Bell Helicopter Textron Inc.\* Blue Cross of Northeastern Pennsylvania Bon Secours Richmond Health System\* Brinks, Hofer Gilson & Lione Brookhaven National Laboratory Campbell Soup Company Carolinas Hospital System City Bank Texas\* City of Cartersville, Georgia City of Columbia, South Carolina City of Fort Worth, Texas City of Las Vegas, Nevada City of Tukwila, Washington\* Concord Hospital Coors Wellness Center, managed by Health Fitness County of San Mateo Covidien Surgical Devices\* Data Recognition Corporation Deaconess Health System\* Department of Veteran Affairs Health Administration Center (VA HAC) DES Architects + Engineers Duke Medicine Duncan Aviation\* Edward Hospital and Health Services FitClub FM Global/Corporate Offices FPL Group Gallagher/Rains\* Gavlord Resort and Convention Center General Dynamics Electric Boat General Mills, Inc.

Goodwill Industries of the Chesapeake. Inc. GTSI Corp Guardian Industries\* Harbison-Fischer Henry Ford Health System Highmark Blue Shield\* Humility of Mary Health Partners\* JFK Medical Center King County KPMG LLP - Detroit Office Leaders Bank Lincoln Industries\* Macomb County Government Medtronic, Inc.<sup>3</sup> Memorial Hermann Healthcare Systems\* Memorial Hospital of Union County\* Mercy Medical Center – Clinton, Iowa\* Merrill Lynch\* Mestek, Inc. Nationwide\* Nelnet, Inc.\* Nevada Cancer Institute\* Northwest Physicians Network Oak Ridge National Laboratory OhioHealth Corporation Our Lady of Bellefonte Hospital\* Penros - St. Francis Health Services Perot Systems Pfizer' Pitt County Memorial Hospital PriMed Management Consulting/Hill Physicians Medical Group\* Production Control Units, Inc. Quad/Graphics, Inc.\* Quintiles' Rea Magnet Wire Company, Inc.\* Regence\* Rex Healthcare San Mateo County Sarasota County Government SAS Institute Inc. Shaw Industries – Plant 8T SIHO

South Jersey Healthcare\* St. Luke's Health System\* St. Mary's Hospital Sumore Regional Medical Center Suncor Energy (USA) Inc.\* The Scott Lawson Group, Ltd The T – Fort Worth Transit The Washington Hospital Trane LaCrosse. WI\*

Macon, GA\* Vidalia, GA TriHealth, Inc.\* UCare Vanderbilt University Verizon Wireless Laurel, MD Vought Aircraft Industries, Inc.\* Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center WaMu\* Washington Savannah River Company Watson Wyatt Worldwide Worldpoint ECC, Inc.

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1-800 CONTACTS A.J. Danboise, Inc. AAFES Abbott Northwestern Hospital ACAC Fitness and Wellness Actuant Corporation Advocate Health Care\* Aetna – Blue Bell, PA Aetna – Chicago, IL Aetna – Greenwood Village, CO Aetna – Leawood, KS Aetna Linthicum and Aetna McLean\* Aetna, Inc. North Carolina Aflac\* AG Financial Solutions Agnesian HealthCare\* Akron Children's Hospital Akron General Medical Center Alameda County Alaska Airlines, Inc.\* Albemarle Hospital Alexandria Extrusion Company Alle-Kiski Medical Center's and Destination Wellness\* Allied Benefit Systems Inc. Allina Hospitals & Clinics/ Owatonna Hospital Altoona Giant Eagle American Cast Iron Pipe Company American Council on Exercise American Electric Power Service Corporation American Enterprises, Germantown, WI American Heart Association Founders Affiliate Ft. Worth, TX, Office Greater Southeast Affiliate\* Greater Washington Region Great Rivers Affiliate Midwest Affiliate\* Nashville, TN, Office Seattle, WA, Office Tempe, AZ, Office American National Property and Casualty Company American Urological Association Amgen Inc.\* Anheuser-Busch Packaging Group, Inc. AnMed Health\* Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Connecticut\* Anthem/WellPoint

Arlington Memorial Hospital Army National Guard Bureau Readiness Center ArvinMeritor, Inc. Ashtabula County Medical Center Associated Electric Cooperative, Inc. AT Still University\* Atmos Energy, Customer Support Center Audrain Medical Center Aurora Community Services Automatic Data Processing Inc. Avera Heart Hospital Avera St. Luke's Ball State University Baltimore City Health Department Bank of America Bank of Glen Burnie Baptist Health Systems **Baptist Hospital** Barton Malow Company Batten & Shaw, Inc. Bay County Health Department Bay, Ltd. Baver Animal Health, LLC Á division of Bayer HealthCare Bayer Corporation, Pittsburgh Bayer HealthCare, Consumer Care\* Bayhealth Medical Center Beaird Group Beau Rivage Resorts Inc. Belafonte Tacolcy Center Benedictine Hospital Benefitdecisions, Inc. Bent County HealthCare Center Bergen Regional Medical Center Berger Health System Berkshire Health Systems\* Bertie Hospital Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center Blue Care Network Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Illinois/Jacksonville Full Service Unit Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas, Inc. Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Rhode Island Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas Houston Full Service Unit BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina Blue Shield of California BlueShield of Northeastern New York Boehringer-Ingelheim Roxane, Inc. Boland Bon Secours Community Hospital Bon Secours Hampton Roads Health System, Inc.\* Bon Secours St. Francis Health System Borgess Health BorgWarner Inc./World Headquarters (Corporate) Boston Scientific Corporation\* Brasfield & Gorrie, Nashville, TN Brevard County Government Brigham and Women's Hospital Bristol-Myers Squibb and Primary New Jersey and Connecticut Locations Bristol-Myers Squibb Company, Syracuse Broad and Cassel Brooks Sports Inc. Brooksville Regional Hospital BryanLGH Medical Center BSA LifeStructures\* BSH Home Appliances Bucyrus Community Hospital Bureau of Land Management Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft LLP

Calumet County

Canaveral Port Authority

# Join these other Start! Fit-Friendly Companies.

Canonsburg General Hospital Cape Regional Medical Center Capitol Broadcasting Company Cardinal Components Cardiovascular Consultants of Maine, P.A. CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield\* Cargill Inc. Carlton Fields, PA Catholic Healthcare West - CHW East Valley\* Catholic Medical Center CBIZ – Leawood Celadon Trucking Services, Inc. Central Atlantic Toyota Distributors Central Life Sciences Central Piedmont Community College CentraState Medical Center CFA Institute CH2M Hill Channing Bete Company, Inc. Charleston Southern University CHEP Chesapeake Regional Medical Center Chesterfield County Chevron Phillips Chemical Company LLC Chicago Department of Public Health Chico's FAS, Inc. Children's Home Society of Florida\* Children's Hospital Central California Chowan Hospital Christiana Care Health Services CHRISTUS St. Patrick Hospital CIGNA Healthcare North Texas Cisco Systems, Inc. CIT Group Inc. City of Albuquerque, NM, City Hall City of Auburn, ME City of Bloomington, IN, City Hall City of Charleston, SC\* City of Farmers Branch, TX City of Houston – 311 Houston Service Center City of Houston – Administrative and Regulatory Affairs City of Houston – Affirmative Action and Contract Compliance City of Houston - Finance City of Houston – Fire Department City of Houston - General Services\* City of Houston - Housing and Community Development (HCD) City of Houston – Houston Department of Health and Human Services (HDHHS) City of Houston - Houston Émergency Center City of Houston - Houston Public Library\* City of Houston - Information Technology (IT) City of Houston - Legal Department\* City of Houston - Mayor's Office City of Houston – Municipal Courts Judicial City of Houston – Planning and Development City of Houston – Police Department\* City of Houston - Public Works and Engineering\* City of Houston – Solid Waste Management\* City of Lubbock, TX, Health Department City of Madison Heights, MI\* City of Meriden, CT City of Missoula, MT City of Ocean City, NJ\* City of Tacoma, WA City of Tamarac, FL City of Valdosta, GA City of Wenatchee, WA CJ & Associates

Clark Metal Products Clayton Homes Cleveland Clinic Cleveland Clinic Florida Cline Davis Mann LLC Coastal Carolina Hospital Coler-Goldwater Nursing Facility & Specialty Hospital Colgate-Palmolive, Cambridge Plant Coliseum Health System\* Colonial\* Colonial Supplemental Insurance Colorado Springs Utilities\* Colson Caster Corp. Comdata Commerzbank AG Commonhealth Community Hospital – The Future Medical Center of Trinity Community Hospital of San Bernardino Community Memorial Hospital Community Regional Medical Centers\* COMPASS Corporation for Recovery Services Comprehensive Health Services, Inc. at the Kennedy Space Center Compuware Corporation ConÁgra Foods Cone LLC ConnectiCare, Inc. Conseco Services, LLC\* Continental Tire Contra Costa Community College District Contra Costa County Schools Insurance Group Coshocton Hospital Countryside Association\* County of Loudon, Virginia\* Covenant Health System/Covenant Lifestyles Centre Covenant HealthCare Cox Health Crowe Chizek and Company LLC Crowlev\* Crutchfield Corporation CSC (Computer Sciences Corporation) CVS Caremark, Customer Care\* D & Y Dallas Convention & Visitors Bureau Danboise Mechanical Inc. Davton Children's Daytona State College Defiance Regional Medical Center Del Monte Foods\* Delaware Technical and Community College Deloitte LLP and its subsidiaries\* Delta Dental of Michigan, Delta Dental of Ohio and Delta Dental of Indiana\* Delta Dental of Pennsylvania\* Details, a Steelcase Company Diebold Incorporated Digitas District of Columbia Department of Health Doctors Hospital of Sarasota Dollar Thrifty Automotive Group, Inc. Dominican Hospital\* Domtar Paper Company, LLC Dover Behavioral Health System Drake Center Driscoll Children's Hospital Duke Raleigh Hospital Dynamic Materials Corporation Edgewood Centre El Camino Hospital Ellwood Crankshaft and Machine Company **Emerson Process Management** Power & Water Solutions

Emmis Communications Emory Empire Health Services\* Energizer Personal Care Enterprise Services Ingersoll Rand/ Nashville, TN Epocrates Erickson Retirement Communities Eriez Manufacturing Co. Fairfield Medical Center Fairview Hospital Farm Credit of North Florida, ACA\* Fayette County Memorial Hospital FCCI Insurance Group FCM Technologies Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas\* Find Great People, International Firelands Regional Medical Center First American Real Estate Information Services, Inc. First Financial Holdings, Inc. FirstMerit Bank, N.A. Fisher Communications, Inc. Fisher-Titus Medical Center Fitness Club at Hackensack University Medical Center Florida Association of Insurance Agents Florida Center for Gastroenterology Florida Hospital Florida Hospital Zephyrhills Flower Hospital Fluor Corporation – Greenville, SC Office Fort Hamilton Hospital Fort HealthCare Fostoria Community Hospital (FCH) Four Winds Saratoga Fowler White Boggs Banker PA\* Frederick County Public Schools Frenkel Benefits, LLP\* Fringe Benefits Management Company Frito-Lay, Inc. Galion Community Hospital Gallagher Benefit Services, Inc., Itasca, IL, and St. Louis, MO Garden City Hospital Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP Gateway Medical Center Gaylord Entertainment Company\* GE Aviation, Albuquerque, NM GE Capital Solutions Fleet Services GE Healthcare Financial Services GE Transportation, Erie, PA Genesis Health System Gilroy, Kernan & Gilroy, Inc. Glatfelter Insurance Group GlaxoSmithKline\* GlaxoSmithKline Consumer Healthcare Glenroy, Inc. GM Wilmington Assembly GMPT Toledo Goldman, Sachs & Co.\* Gold's Gym, Women's World\* Good Samaritan Hospital Gordian Health Solutions, Inc. Grand Hvatt Seattle Grand Lake Health System Grant Thornton LLP - Wichita Great River Medical Center Green Oaks Hospital Gresham, Smith and Partners Grimmway Enterprises, Inc.\* Group Insurance Solutions, Inc. GuideStone Financial Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention Gulbrandsen Chemicals Inc. Gundersen Lutheran Health System H D Smith Hamilton Beach/Proctor-Silex, Inc.

Hanover Township, Northampton County Hardy Diagnostics Harley Ellis Devereaux Harris & Associates Harris Methodist Southwest Hospital Harry & David – Hebron, OH Harvard Pilgrim Health Care\* Harvard Vanguard Medical Associates\* Havenwood – Heritage Heights Hawk Electronics, a Teletouch Company HCA – Tampa Shared Service Center HCA Richmond Division -Chippenham/Johnston Willis Hospital HCA Richmond Health System -John Randolph Medical Center HCA Richmond Health System -Retreat Hospital HD Supply Facilities Maintenance Health Net, Inc.\* Healthcare Management Systems, Inc. (HMS) HealthPlus of Michigan\* HealthSouth Emerald Coast Rehabilitation Hospital\* HealthSouth Rehab of Mechanicsburg\* HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital of Tallahassee HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital of York Healthways - Pittsburgh Care Enhancement Center Healthways Raleigh Business Unit Healthwise Hearst Corporation Heart of Lancaster Regional Medical Center Heartland Health Helen Haves Hospital Hendrickson Trailer Suspension Systems Hennepin County HealthWorks' Henrico Doctors' Hospital – HCA Division Henry County Hospital Heritage Hospital Hiawatha Valley Education District Hickman Mills C-1 Schools Hill Country Memorial Health System Hillcrest Medical Center Hilliard Lyons Hillsborough Township Hillside Rehabilitation Hospital Hilton Head Hospital\* Hobart Family YMCA Hocking Valley Community Hospital Holy Name Hospital Holzer Medical Center-Jackson Homestead Funding Corp. Honda of South Carolina, Mfg., Inc. Honest Tea Horry Telephone Cooperative, Inc. Horseshoe Southern Indiana Hospice of the Comforter\* Hospira, Inc.\* Host Hotels and Resorts Houston Airport System (HAS) Houston Healthcare\* Houston Park and Recreation Department - Recreation and Wellness Division Howard County General Hospital Howrey LLP HSBC – North American Holdings\* Hyatt Regency Orlando International Airport \*These workplaces have been recognized

Hamilton Sundstrand – Windsor Locks

a their headquarters, as well as regional locations. Visit heart.org/start for the complete list.

# Start! Fit-Friendly Companies (continued)

ICMA-RC IGT\* ImagePoint, Inc. IncentOne Independent Care Health Plan Indiana Regional Medical Center Inspire Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Integrity Home Care Interim Healthcare - Newark, Ohio International Specialty Products Interstate Battery System of America, Inc. Intuit Inc. Inverness Village Iredell Memorial Hospital J. Rolfe Davis Insurance J.B. Hunt Transport Services, Inc. Jamba Juice Company James A. Haley Veterans' Hospital JE Dunn Construction – Kansas City Jefferson City Medical Group\* John Muir Health\* Johns Hopkins Hospital\* Jordan Valley Community Health Center Juno Lighting Group – Des Plaines, IL Juno Lighting Group – Fishers, IN K&L Microwave, Inc. Kaiser Permanente Colorado\* Kaiser Permanente, Santa Rosa Kansas Heart Hospital Karmak, Inc.\* Kaskaskia College\* Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP Kelly & Associates Insurance Group Ken Batchelor Cadillac Saab Hummer Sewell Automotive Company Kennedy Krieger Institute\* Keystone Health Club & Café Kindred Healthcare Lake Hospital System\* Lee Memorial Health System\* Leon and Toby Cooperman JCC -JCC MetroWest Let's Dish Lexington Medical Center LexisNexis Life Care Services, LLC LifeBridge Health & Fitness Lifespan Lima Memorial Health System LinkAmerica Corporation Littleton Coin Company Littleton Regional Hospital Local Government Insurance Trust Loudoun County Public Schools Lovitt & Touche, Inc.\* Lowell General Hospital Lutron Electronics MacNeal Hospital Madison Local Schools\* Main Line Health\* Manatee Community College Manchester Health Department Marietta Memorial Hospital Maritz Research\* Markel Corporation Marlborough Hospital Martha Jefferson Hospital Mary Rutan Hospital Massachusetts General Hospital McCain Foods, USA\* McCormick and Co, Inc. McDermott Will & Emery McDonough Holland & Allen PC\* McKonley and Asbury, LLP\* McNichols Company McQueary Henry Bowles Troy MedAmerica, Inc. MedBen

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Okaloosa County Board of County Commissioners' Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office Oklahoma City Úniversity Oklahoma State University – Tulsa Ollis and Company Omron Healthcare, Inc.\* Onondaga County Government\* OPUBCO Communications Group Orange County Library System Orange County Transportation Authority\* Orlando Health\* Osram-Svlvania – Hillsboro, NH Outer Banks Hospital Outsource, Inc. OU – Tulsa Pacific LightNet Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office Palo Pinto General Hospital Panduit Corporation\* Paradise Valley Hospital\* Parker Aerospace Group, Parker Hannifin Corporation\* Parkland Medical Center Parma Community General Hospital PATHways - Raytheon North Texas\* Penn State Fayette, The Eberly Campus Pennington Biomedical Research Center -LSU System Pepco Holdings, Inc.\* Pepperidge Farm, Inc. Pepsi Bottling Group Pepsi Bottling Group McKees Rocks, PA PepsiCo Inc., PepsiCo Business Solutions Group, Parkwood and Data Center Locations\* Performance Food Group PHH Mortgage Philips Healthcare Philips Healthcare, Bothell, WA Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital/ Phoebe Healthworks PhRMA Physio-Control, Inc.\* Pike Community Hospital Pima County Pitt County Government\* Plus One Health Management, Inc. Polk Community College\* Pomerene Hospital Portland General Electric -World Trade Center Portsmouth Regional Hospital Precision Medical Products, Inc.\* Preferred Health Systems Premera Blue Cross\* Presbyterian Hospital, Charlotte Presbyterian Hospital of Dallas Press-Republican Princess House, Inc.\* Princeton University Print Communications ProMutual Group Providence Health and Services\* PRYFR PyraMax Bank QPS Companies, Inc. Ouadraspec. Inc. Ouest Diagnostics Questar Corporation, Questar Gas\* QVC Inc. R&R Insurance\* R. L. Polk & Co. Radio Systems Corporation Rawlings Sporting Goods Reckitt Benckiser Redstone Highlands Regional Medical Center Bayonet Point

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\*These workplaces have been recognized at their headquarters, as well as regional locations. Visit heart.org/start for the complete list.



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This national Start! sponsor and Fit-Friendly Company built a walking trail at its Omaha, Nebr., headquarters for its employees and subsequently opened the trail to the public.

Chip McClure, chairman, CEO and president of ArvinMeritor Inc., is an avid runner who has made physical fitness a part of his life. At work, he established "Walk and Talk with the Chairman" to encourage employee fitness with 30-minute walking sessions using ArvinMeritor's heart-healthy track.

#### (continued from page 3)

wellness effort. In just one year, participation in an online health risk appraisal rose 58%, an increase driven by the opportunity for employees to earn a \$500 discount on their monthly medical plan contribution.

During the summer months, **Nelnet**, based in Lincoln, Neb., declares "Walking Wednesdays" at its office locations. Associates are encouraged to walk for 30 minutes during their lunch breaks or in conjunction with a meeting. Nelnet's CEO, CFO, president and site executives regularly lead the group walks. Meetings-in-motion and meetings with stretch breaks on the agenda can earn associates Wellness Points toward financial incentives.

#### Promoting Wellness Culture From Within

King County, Wash., workers are following the lead of their boss, County Executive Ron Sims. Since January 2006, Sims has dropped 49 pounds and lowered his cholesterol and blood pressure. Sims' motivation began when his personal wellness assessment revealed he was at high risk for type 2 diabetes. "I had watched my father die of complications from the disease and I saw its effects on my mother. I had a choice to make," says Sims. "Either head in a different direction, or be like my parents in terms of my health." Sims discovered a passion for cycling, which enabled him to stick to his weight loss and fitness goals. His example is working: 59% of county employees are now in the lowest risk category for developing chronic health conditions, compared to 51% in 2006, and the participation rate tops 90%.

Gallagher/Rains, the largest employee benefits brokerage and consulting firm in Michigan, promotes wellness by offering employees a variety of opportunities to help maintain an active and healthy lifestyle. Whether it be the on-site workout facility, weekly yoga classes or frequent wellnessbased "lunch & learns" with nutritionists and local chefs, Gallagher/Rains presents a multitude of ways for employees to make positive decisions regarding their health. Headquartered in Bingham Farms, Mich., the company has built on the success of its own initiatives and now helps its clients implement wellness programs. Gallagher/Rains serves as an example of how companies can successfully encourage employees to practice wellness in and out of the workplace.

#### The Success Correlation

Government IT solutions company **GTSI** in Chantilly, Va., has accomplished a 30% savings on employee hospitalization costs since it implemented its wellness program. The company's human resources department assigned a dedicated benefits administrator who chairs the wellness committee, runs the wellness program and manages a wellness Web site.

"We have seen a dramatic decrease in these costs year over year," says Chief Executive Officer Jim Leto. "Not only were employees' hospital stays shorter, but they also were being treated for less severe medical conditions." Leto attributes the significant savings to the program, which educates the company's 700 employees on the importance of a healthy lifestyle and provides them with tools to better manage their healthcare.

For more information on the American Heart Association, criteria for becoming a Start! Fit-Friendly Company or to download an application, visit www.americanheart.org/forbes.

The next deadline to submit a Fit-Friendly Company application is January 2009.

In 2006, **Quintiles Transnational Corp.** of Durham, N.C., launched HealthyUHealthyQ.com to make its wellness program and lifestyle coaching available to employees throughout North America. The site provides access to certified personal trainers, registered dietitians, health management tools and information about offline opportunities, including on-site wellness and fitness classes and a calendar of community events in which the company is participating, such as local American Heart Association Start! Heart Walks.

"This initiative was designed to create a culture within Quintiles that encourages healthy lifestyles, and the Web site is an important part of this process," says Dr. Dennis Gillings, chairman and chief executive officer. "Seventy-six percent of our employees are making use of the site and one-third of them are participating in personal health coaching."

"Health and wellness programs like Start! benefit all of those involved — the employees, the customers and even the corporations themselves," says Jeff Moody, chief executive officer, **Subway Franchisee Advertising Fund Trust**. Subway has been a Start! national sponsor since the program's inception. "The ideal outcome of the Start! movement would be to wipe out cardiovascular disease. Then, and only then, can we truly celebrate success."



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