Howard High School Students to Kick Off ‘Tigers Step Up 2 Cancer’ in October

(HOWARD, SD) – Howard High School students are joining together this October to raise funds and awareness through their first-ever “Tigers Step Up 2 Cancer” campaign. Throughout the entire month, students will be leading fundraising efforts with the Horizon Health Foundation to benefit Miner County residents undergoing cancer treatment and to help with related expenses.

As the students begin kicking off their campaign, Rivers Edge Bank, Member FDIC (formerly Miner County Bank), has committed to boosting the students’ efforts by agreeing to match what the students raise during the month, up to a total of $2,500 – which means double the impact for Miner County.

“Rivers Edge Bank is very excited to see the Howard School District students collaborating to get involved in our community and we were eager to support a fundraising match for them,” said Justin Palmquist, Vice President and Ag Loan Officer at Rivers Edge Bank, Member FDIC. “It is great to see the students recognize that they can make a difference and that it is worth their time and energy to do something meaningful for others.”

All of the money raised from the Tigers’ campaign will be directed to the Horizon Health Foundation. Horizon Health Care cares for patients in Miner County affected by cancer and will work with the Foundation following the event to disburse funds accordingly.

With this campaign, the students hope to not only raise funds, but to also inspire and empower community members and show them how much of a difference students can make by coming together. “With help from the Horizon Health Foundation, the students at Howard High School

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are able to step up and show how a little push can create a big movement,” said Maddie Palmquist, Howard High School Senior and Student Council leader.

Palmquist and her fellow students are coordinating all of the campaign activities, from reaching out to sponsors to devising their fundraising plan. Many of the students who have been directly affected by cancer have also stepped up to share their story with their school and community to create additional awareness.

“This is a great opportunity for our students to take on leadership roles and begin preparing them to be future community leaders,” said Todd Lee, Howard School District Superintendent and 7-12 Principal. “Nobody has to look far to find someone who has been affected by cancer. If we can contribute to what the Horizon Health Foundation is doing to help our own community members fight cancer, the Howard School District is proud to do so.”

Throughout the month of October, community members will see students selling “Tigers Step Up 2 Cancer” t-shirts for $10.00 at all home sporting events. The shirts will also be available to purchase at the Horizon Administration Building (across from the post office). These shirts have been designed by the students and are sponsored by a number of area businesses to ensure that all of the proceeds go directly towards this campaign. Howard Athletic teams and band members will also be doing their part to raise awareness by wearing pink accessories at their events throughout the month, courtesy of Howard Physical Therapy. The athletes will also be paying special tribute to their loved ones that have fought cancer during the October 6th home football game versus Chester and the October 20th home volleyball contest versus Garretson.

“Having the opportunity to see how this fundraiser can impact the lives of people I know is an incredible feeling,” said Maddie. “I am very excited to see how “Tigers Step Up 2 Cancer” can bring the students and community together to make a difference.”

The Howard students would like to recognize and thank the following sponsors for their generous support to date: FoxPrint, Good Samaritan Society – Howard, Rusty’s Food Store, Howard Cold Storage, Dawson’s Corner Pantry, GF Advertising, Howard Physical Therapy, and Rivers Edge Bank.
The Horizon Health Foundation was formed to pursue the mission of inspiring and empowering patients by providing funding for accessible and affordable health care now and into the future. For more information or to make a contribution to the “Tigers Step Up 2 Cancer” campaign and have it matched dollar for dollar, please visit http://www.horizonhealthfoundation.com or call 605.772.5907.

About Horizon Health Care, Inc.

For over 39 years, Horizon Health Care, Inc. has been providing personalized, affordable, high-quality medical, dental and mental health care through a rural, community-based network in South Dakota. Horizon is a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) that serves the medical, dental and mental health care needs of South Dakotans in rural, medically underserved areas through 105,000 patient visits annually in 31 community health centers in: Aberdeen, Alcester, Bison, Bryant, De Smet, Eagle Butte, Elk Point, Faith, Fort Thompson, Howard, Huron, Isabel, La Plant, Lake Preston, Martin, McIntosh, Mission, Plankinton, Wessington Springs, White River, Woonsocket, and Yankton. For more information please visit www.horizonhealthcare.org.

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