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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Free **GO GURNEE** Kick-off Brings Community Together

(Gurnee, IL) Monday, May 2, 2016 – An estimated 300 people joined Gurnee Park District on Sunday, May 1 at Viking Park in Gurnee to kick-off the free community movement, **GO GURNEE**. The event was open to the public, and attendees were encouraged to spread the word and commit to walking 30 minutes each day for the month of May.

The event was filled with children and families participating in a free raffle, t-shirt launching and listening to an inspiration talk. Wiley the Wildcat from Woodland Community School District 50 and Cha Cha the Frog from Rainforest Café joined in on the fun along with many superheroes and Disney© princesses before the 30 minute walk commenced.

Many **GO GURNEE** Champions were in attendance including Senator Melinda Bush, Representative Sheri Jesiel, Representative Sam Yingling, Mayor Kristina Kovarik, Vice President of the Gurnee Park District Board of Commissioners Libby Baker and Gurnee Park District Executive Director Susie Kuruvilla.

“I am very impressed with the turnout we had for the kick-off event. The goal of this free and accessible program is to create a culture in our community that promotes physical movement,” stated Kuruvilla.

Throughout the month of May, the Park District, along with the **GO GURNEE** Champions, are inspiring Gurnee residents to walk with their friends, families and neighbors at 6:30 pm in their own neighborhood or local park/trail.

All residents and friends of Gurnee are encouraged to start walking today and for the remainder of the month. If a community member was not able to attend the kick-off event, but would like to receive a free walking log and bracelet while supplies last, visit any Gurnee Park District community center.

“The **GO GURNEE** movement is only starting, and I envision it being embraced by the entire community leading to a healthier, happier lifestyle for everyone,” expressed Kuruvilla.

To learn more about the physical and mental benefits of walking, visit www.GOGurnee.com and www.Facebook.com/GOGURNEE. Use #**GOGURNEE** to be a part of the conversation and movement.

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Photos Attached:

GOGURNEE-Susie_Kuruvilla – Executive Director for Gurnee Park District
GOGURNEE-Crowd