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MHN Serving Hundreds of Redskins Fans by Providing Health Checkups During Team's Draft Day Party at FedExField

Washington D.C. – Men's Health Network (MHN) partnered with the Washington Redskins, Boehringer Ingelheim, Bon Secours Health System and offered free health screenings during the team's annual Draft Day Party at FedExField on Saturday, April 27. Over 250 fans participated in free heart health screenings including blood pressure, cholesterol, glucose, EKG and body fat tests. Following the screenings, participants were given further education by MHN staff about regularly visiting their healthcare provider for routine check-ups and about cultivating a dialogue with their provider about their health.

"Our hopes are that by providing these free screenings to people in a community who may have limited access to healthcare, we are preventing potential complications and severe illnesses," said Ana Fadich, MPH, CHES, Vice President Men's Health Network. "There is a lot that goes into putting together such events, and the Washington Redskins have been fantastic partners for getting the message out about health and wellness in the neighboring communities. Together we're helping serve men and women of all ages by encouraging involvement in personal healthcare via screenings and health education activities."

The Draft Day Party featured an appearance by Redskins quarterback Robert Griffin III, as well as the debut of the 2013 Redskins Cheerleaders and performances by the Redskins Marching Band. Most importantly, the event brought together Redskins fans, families, physicians, and other partners alike and encouraged them to take ownership of their health and well-being by focusing on prevention, early detection, and intervention of disease.

"A lot of people take their health for granted and doing something like this for free gives you an opportunity to get results which you may not normally have," said Patricia Griffin, 49, Maryland resident. "I think [free health screenings at NFL events] is a positive thing; it is a good way to get more men [checked] especially since it's free."

When asked about what women can do to better persuade the men in their lives to get checked, Griffin said, "Let them know you care enough about them and that you want them around for a while, and lead by example."

<u>Men's Health Network</u> (MHN) is a national non-profit organization whose mission is to reach men, boys, and their families where they live, work, play, and pray with health prevention messages and tools, screening programs, educational materials, advocacy opportunities, and patient navigation. Learn more about MHN at www.menshealthnetwork.org and follow us on Twitter @MensHlthNetwork.

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