



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**IMS ARIZONA MARATHON WILL BE FIRST  
EVENT OF ITS KIND IN WEST VALLEY**

*Marathon, Half Marathon and Marathon Relay Scheduled For Sunday, February 15, 2009*

**(Glendale, Ariz., November 4, 2008)** – [The House of Elliott Charitable Foundation](#), Debra Undhjem and four West Valley cities (Avondale, Glendale, Goodyear, and Litchfield) are working together in bringing the West Valley its first-ever marathon, half marathon and relay marathon to be held February 15, 2009. With the assistance of its title sponsor [Integrated Medical Services](#) (IMS), the Foundation is pleased to present the [IMS Arizona Marathon](#). The inaugural race is set on a course that will showcase all four communities, with electrifying finish-line activities planned at [Westgate City Center](#).

"We are thrilled at the response from the West Valley cities and companies in support of the inaugural IMS Arizona Marathon," said Debra Undhjem, IMS Arizona Marathon director. "Our goal is to show off this area of the Valley and promote physical fitness and disease prevention awareness. With IMS on board as our title sponsor, we are confident that our commitment to healthy living is on target."

As the title sponsor, IMS will help further promote the message of health and wellness, and company healthcare providers will serve as medical volunteers stationed throughout the marathon course. IMS has also announced that this year's marathon will raise money and awareness for the Arizona [Leukemia and Lymphoma Society](#) (LLS). Specifically, money raised will be flagged for nine-year-old Joshua Gass, a Goodyear boy who was diagnosed with leukemia in 2006.

"In the last two years, the West Valley has rallied around Joshua and his family, raising money for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society," said Donna Sirounian, IMS marketing manager. "This event is another incredible way for us to educate the community about leukemia and lymphoma and contribute to finding a cure."

The IMS Arizona Marathon is a Boston-qualifying event. The marathon begins at 7 a.m. in Goodyear at the corner of Yuma and Cotton Lane. Runners in the half marathon will begin at Avondale's Estrella Mountain Community College at 8 a.m.; all racers finish at Glendale's Westgate City Center.

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Both courses wind through the West Valley with live music, DJs, community pep squads and families cheering along the way. Westgate's finish-line festivities include a MGD 64 party, complimentary beverages and live music from The Chris Parker Project.

"We jumped at the opportunity to plan and host the finish-line party for the inaugural IMS Arizona Marathon," said Dave Groff, president, Westgate Sports and Entertainment. "This first-of-its kind race is an incredible addition to the West Valley, and Westgate is proud to be a big part of this trailblazing sporting event."

The IMS Arizona Marathon Health and Fitness Expo Event will take place a day before the race, Saturday, February 14, 2009 at Western Sky Middle School in Goodyear. Other event sponsors include [The Ellman Companies](#), [Westgate City Center](#), [West Valley Magazine](#), [Dedicated Phase I](#), [Dedicated Clinical Research II](#), [Function Drinks](#), [Schlotzsky's Deli](#), [Orcutt Winslow](#), and [Turner Construction](#). ASBAIT and WESTMARC are endorsing the event. For more information about the inaugural IMS Arizona Marathon or to register, visit [www.thearizonamarathon.com](http://www.thearizonamarathon.com).

### **About The House of Elliott Charitable Foundation:**

The House of Elliott Foundation supports West Valley non profits through donations and collaborative efforts, providing help with shared services, fundraising, events organizing, legal, accounting, technical and other services. The Foundation improves the relationship between business and non profit by negotiating tangible benefits for business, while raising funds and profile for non profits and improving value for donors. Services range from endowment services for small non profits, shared grant writing resources, admin assistance, location issues, marketing, technical resources, health and safety programs and many more services aimed at allowing non profits to focus on their core issues. For more information, visit [www.houseofelliottfoundation.com](http://www.houseofelliottfoundation.com)

### **About IMS:**

Established in 2006 in Phoenix, Arizona, Integrated Medical Services (IMS) is a team of healthcare professionals providing exceptional patient-centered, comprehensive care for its patients. Physician-owned, led, and driven, IMS provides healthcare in the areas of family practice, internal medicine, cardiology, dermatology/MOHS surgery, ear/nose/throat, gastroenterology, general surgery, hematology and oncology, neurology, obstetrics/gynecology, orthopedics, pain management, podiatry, radiation oncology and urology. The IMS team is comprised of physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, nurses, medical assistants, surgical techs, diagnostic staff and non-clinical staff. IMS locations can be found throughout the state of Arizona, including Avondale, Goodyear, Litchfield Park, Buckeye, Glendale, Surprise, Sun City, Phoenix, Maryvale, Paradise Valley, Chandler, Globe, Payson, Show Low, Lake Havasu City, and Kingman. For more information, visit [www.imsaz.org](http://www.imsaz.org).

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