

PHOTO/VIDEO OPPORTUNITY: Wednesday, Oct. 17, 2007

Caregiver Leeza Gibbons To Help Dedicate Leeza's Place at WellMed

WellMed Charitable Foundation Brings Community Resource For Caregivers To San Antonio; First In Southwest U.S.



Leeza and Jean Gibbons

San Antonio, TX – Nationally known personality **Leeza Gibbons** will be on hand **Wednesday** to help dedicate Leeza's Place at WellMed, a resource center supporting caregivers and those recently diagnosed with debilitating conditions such as Alzheimer's disease, stroke, cancer, diabetes, chronic lung disease and heart disease.

Dedication events are set from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 17 at Leeza's Place at WellMed, 14100 Nacogdoches, adjacent to WellMed at Northern Hills healthcare clinic.

WellMed Charitable Foundation is sponsoring this **free** resource center for the Greater San Antonio community. On opening day, volunteers are scheduled to demonstrate programs available at **Leeza's Place at WellMed** including scrapbooking, Memory Television and on-line memory screenings. Programs have been designed to provide educational and empowering strategies, and offer unique tools that help caregivers deal with daily challenges of their role.

WellMed officials also will unveil **WellMed I: Healthcare On Wheels**, a 45-foot bus that will serve as a state-of-the-art rolling education and healthcare resource for the Greater San Antonio community. WellMed I will offer free healthcare screenings and other services across the region.

Leeza's Place at WellMed will be the seventh such facility in the nation, and the first in Texas. Other Leeza's Place locations include: Melbourne and Pembroke Pines, FL; Hollywood and Sherman Oaks, CA; Joliet, IL; and Brooklyn, NY.

The Leeza Gibbons Memory Foundation and its signature program, Leeza's Place, is the manifestation of Leeza's vision for a better standard of care for patients and caregivers. She started the foundation in response to the struggles she and her family dealt with after losing her grandmother to Alzheimer's disease, and her mother was diagnosed with the memory disorder. The national non-profit foundation partners with local

charitable organizations in cities across the country to offer hope to those affected within individual communities.

The WellMed Charitable Foundation is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization recently established to support seniors and caregivers of seniors in our community on wellness and living with illness. The Foundation recently made headlines with its gift of \$350,000 to the City of San Antonio to sponsor free influenza vaccines for the community this flu season.

WellMed Medical Group is South Texas' largest physician-owned practice management company, specializing in senior health care since 1990. Today, WellMed serves more than 70,000 patients, mostly Medicare-eligible seniors in the Greater San Antonio area, through more than 20 medical clinics and 20 affiliated physicians' offices across the region. WellMed's services include on-site pharmacies, X-ray and lab at many clinics and specialists on staff (including podiatry and dermatology).

A sister company, WellMed Medical Management, owns other healthcare companies such as Comfort Care transportation service (from home to physician provider and return); HealthRight, a disease management company; clinical research and more.

For more information
Bill Connolly, WellMed
VP, Community Relations
(210) 617-4053
bconnolly@wellmed.net