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American Heart Association Appoints New Members of Local Board of Directors

(ST. LOUIS, July 26, 2010) – The American Heart Association Greater St. Louis Division Board of Directors announced the approval of six new board members today.

Joining the volunteer board are: **Lynn Barnes** VP, Business Planning & Controller, Ameren; **Dr. Angela Brown** Assistant Professor, Internal Medicine Cardiovascular Division, Washington University School of Medicine; **Mike Castellano** CEO, Esse Health; **Michelle Fite** Vice President- Global Strategy, Marketing, & Specialty Business, Solae; **Dr. George Kichura** Cardiologist, Saint John's Mercy Heart & Vascular ; **Dr. Michael J. Lim**, Assoc. Prof. Internal Medicine, Interim Director Division of Cardiology, St. Louis University School of Medicine

“We are honored to have such respected and committed individuals from both the medical and business communities join our outstanding group of volunteers,” said Tracy Brazelton, Executive Director American Heart Association Greater St. Louis. “I believe their leadership will help our organization move toward accomplishing its mission of building healthier lives free of cardiovascular diseases and stroke.”

Additionally, the board confirmed the appointment of Steve Walli, President & CEO UnitedHealth Care as Chair Elect.

Louis B. “Buzz” Eckelkamp and Dr. Andy Ziskind will continue their roles as Board Chair and President, respectively. Existing board members include: David Atkinson, A. Joseph Cornelius, Dr. Jerome Dwyer, Flint Fowler, Richard Hargett, Dr. Arthur Labovitz, Dr. Douglas Mann, Michelle Meyer and Michael J. Perry

Cardiovascular diseases, including stroke, are the leading cause of death in Missouri. The Association currently funds nearly \$9 million in research in the St. Louis area.

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About the American Heart Association

Founded in 1924, the American Heart Association today is the nation's oldest and largest voluntary health organization dedicated to reducing disability and death from diseases of the heart and stroke. These diseases, America's No. 1 and No. 3 killers, and all other cardiovascular diseases claim over 870,000 lives a year. In fiscal year 2005–06 the association invested over \$543 million in research, professional and public education, advocacy and community service programs to help all Americans live longer, healthier lives. To learn more, call 1-800-AHA-USA1 or visit americanheart.org.