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## **President Obama, Minnesota Senators, and Minnesota Ovarian Cancer Alliance Join in Advocating for Ovarian Cancer**

**Minneapolis, MN. September 12, 2009.** A perfect storm of health care advocacy takes place in Minneapolis this weekend, with President Obama's visit to discuss health care, a recent Senate Resolution supporting September 2009 as National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month, as well as Minnesota Ovarian Cancer Alliance's 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Silent No More Walk/Run for Ovarian Cancer.

As Congress continues the debate on health care issues, Minnesota Ovarian Cancer Alliance is calling attention to the need for research and education on ovarian cancer. Ovarian cancer is the fifth leading cause of cancer deaths among women in the U.S, and the mortality rate has not significantly decreased in the past 40 years. Most women are unaware that the symptoms of ovarian cancer often include bloating, pelvic or abdominal pain, difficulty eating or feeling full quickly, urinary symptoms, and several other symptoms that are easily confused with other diseases. Because there is no reliable early detection test for ovarian cancer, 75 percent of ovarian cancer cases are detected at an advanced stage.

These issues are stated in the recent U.S. Senate Resolution, supported by Senator Al Franken, DFL-Minnesota, and Senator Amy Klobuchar, DFL-Minnesota. The resolution supports the goals and ideas of September 2009 as National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month, which President Obama recently proclaimed. The President states in his proclamation, "I encourage citizens, Government agencies, private businesses, nonprofit organizations, and other interested groups to join in activities that will increase awareness of what Americans do to prevent and control ovarian cancer." President Obama's mother died of ovarian cancer in 1995 at age 52.

MOCA is celebrating its 10<sup>th</sup> year of success in spreading awareness and education about ovarian cancer. MOCA is one of the largest non-governmental funders of ovarian cancer research, having raised more than \$2.3 million in Minnesota. The Silent No More Walk/Run is MOCA's largest fundraiser.

MOCA's 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Silent No More Walk/Run fundraiser is today at Rosland Park, Edina, with registration at 7:30 a.m. Evan Farmer, television personality and host of HGTV's "Freestyle", will emcee the event. The Walk/Run brings together survivors, family members and the medical community for a day of advocacy and hope. Cost is \$25 for adults and \$12 for children 12 and under.

For more information about the Silent No More Walk/Run or Minnesota Ovarian Cancer Alliance, visit [www.mnovarian.org](http://www.mnovarian.org) or call Constance at 612-822-0050.

**About the Minnesota Ovarian Cancer Alliance (MOCA):**

Celebrating our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary, MOCA was founded in 1999 by a group of ovarian cancer survivors. MOCA has grown from a group of nine women to an organization of more than 750 survivors and over 32,000 donors and active members. MOCA is a Minnesota based non profit organization that is dedicated to raising awareness and funding the research needed to detect ovarian cancer early and treat it properly. In just nine years, MOCA has raised more than \$2.3 million for ovarian cancer research in Minnesota.