

JACKSON HEART STUDY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Jackson Heart Study – Women’s Heart Health: Getting to the Heart of the Matter

Jackson, MS – The Jackson Heart Study (JHS), the largest single site study (5302 participants) of cardiovascular disease among African Americans, will host its 6th Annual Celebration of Life, on Saturday, February 25, 2006, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm, UMC Conference Center at the Jackson Medical Mall. It is an annual event held in February of each year to celebrate the life and legacies of the African American family and highlight the importance of the JHS. This year’s event will focus on African American women’s heart health.

Blood pressure, glucose and cholesterol screenings will begin at 9:00 am and end at 10:45 am. The program begins promptly at 11:00 am featuring Dr. Myrna Alexander, a partner in Jackson Cardiology and Associates. She is also an active staff physician at St. Dominic-Jackson Memorial Hospital and Central Mississippi Medical Center. A native of Biloxi, MS, Dr. Alexander is a graduate of Tougaloo College and Meharry Medical College. She completed her internship and residency in internal medicine and her Cardiology Fellowship and Interventional Cardiology Fellowship at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit, Michigan. Dr. Alexander joins the “A” list of nationally and internationally re-known speakers for the “Celebration of Life”. Former guests include Drs. David Satcher, Vanessa Northington-Gamble, Rodney Hood and Rick Kittles.

Dr. Alexander has an extensive list of accomplishments as a clinician, medical educator, clinical researcher, lecturer, and published author. She is active in a number of professional societies and organizations which includes: American Medical Association, American College of Cardiology, Association of Black Cardiologists, National Medical Association where she served as the President of the State Chapter, and Mississippi Medical and Surgical Association where she also served as President. Presently, Dr. Alexander is a member of the Division of Medicaid’s Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee for the state of Mississippi and Chairperson of Cardiovascular Services at St. Dominic-Jackson Memorial Hospital. Her special interests in medicine are cardiovascular diseases in women and adult congenital heart diseases.

For more information on the Jackson Heart Study’s 6th Annual Celebration of Life please contact Donna Antoine- LaVigne at (601) 368-4650, e-mail donna.a.antoinelavigne@jsums.edu