SIMON'S FUND TO LAUNCH HEARTBYTES - THE NATION'S FIRST NATIONAL YOUTH CARDIAC REGISTRY

HeartBytes Will Offer Data to Researchers Interested in Sudden Cardiac Arrest in Children and Young Adults

Philadelphia, **PA** - <u>Simon's Fund</u>, a non-profit dedicated to raising awareness about the conditions that lead to sudden cardiac arrest and death in children and young adults, is pleased to announce the launch of HeartBytes, a national youth cardiac registry. HeartBytes was created to provide researchers with a cardiac data set of seemingly healthy students and to promote research around sudden cardiac arrest and death in children and young adults.

"It's hard to believe that children die of sudden cardiac arrest", says Darren Sudman, Co-Founder and Executive Director of Simon's Fund. "It's even harder to believe that there is virtually no data on this subject. HeartBytes will be our 'library' for those who wish to study and investigate cardiac arrest and heart conditions in seemingly healthy students, and we are excited to launch it during SCA Awareness Month."

HeartBytes, a collaborative effort with INFINITT North America, will initially contain data on approximately 4,000 students who have been tested at Simon's Fund heart screenings throughout the country. The digital platform will soon be made available to other Screen Across America organizations. Within a few years, it is expected to contain tens of thousands of anonymized student records.

"INFINITT is really happy to be a part of this effort. With the aggregated data from these heart screenings, Simon's Fund will not only save lives through prevention, but will also provide evidence-based information on population health," said David Smarro, President and CEO of INFINITT North America. "When these data are reviewed and analyzed, researchers may be able to develop predictive analytics that enable the medical community to alert those most vulnerable to Sudden Cardiac Arrest."

The registry will store medical and family cardiac history, as well as vital signs, ECG images and echo images. HeartBytes will receive research proposals that will be vetted by an independent research oversight committee comprised of academics and physicians from around the country. Once proposals are approved, qualified researchers will be given access to a specified set of deidentified data.

HeartBytes Page 2

"The only way to change policy and standards of care in medicine is through evidence-based research," says David Shipon MD, Chief Medical Officer of Simon's Fund. "HeartBytes will be a resource for any qualified researcher who is seeking answers to questions about students and cardiac arrest."

Additional collaborators on HeartBytes are Pulse InfoFrame and DataMed.

About Simon's Fund:

Simon's Fund is dedicated to raising awareness about the conditions that lead to sudden cardiac arrest and death in children. It was instrumental in the passage of the first legislation in the country to protect student athletes from sudden cardiac arrest – the Pennsylvania's Sudden Cardiac Arrest Prevention Act. Five other states have passed the law and several others have introduced it. Simon's Fund has provided free heart screenings to more than 10,000 students.

About INFINITT North America:

INFINITT North America, located in Phillipsburg, New Jersey, is a wholly-owned subsidiary of INFINITT Healthcare, a global company dedicated to the development of image and information management solutions for healthcare. INFINITT PACS was named "Overall Strongest Performer" in the 2013 KLAS performance report titled *PACS Technology: New Versions Stepping Up?** and has been a PACS Category Leader, ranking #1 in *Best IN KLAS: Software and Services* report for five consecutive years (2009-2013). For more information, visit the INFINITT North America web site at www.infinittna.com.

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