

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 9, 2007

**Contact:** The HealthCentral Network  
Lucie Leblois, Director of Marketing  
[leblois@THCN.com](mailto:leblois@THCN.com)  
703.302.1053

**Prominent Respiratory Therapist and Author Joins StopSmokingConnection.com  
as a COPD Expert**

ARLINGTON, VA— The HealthCentral Network, Inc. ([www.HealthCentral.com](http://www.HealthCentral.com)) today announced that Jane Martin, an accomplished Respiratory Therapist, is joining the [StopSmokingConnection.com](http://StopSmokingConnection.com) community as an expert. Martin, author of *Breathe Better, Live in Wellness: Winning Your Battle Over Shortness of Breath* and web site director for [Breathing Better, Living Well.com](http://Breathing Better, Living Well.com), will write primarily about Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD).

Focusing on COPD treatment and management, Martin will write about coping with COPD in daily life and therapies that enhance lung functioning.

"I'm excited to be part of The HealthCentral Network's new COPD site," said Martin. "I've worked closely for many years with smokers living in the grip of nicotine addiction and the fear -- and the reality -- of life with Emphysema and COPD. There is life after quitting. And there is life with Emphysema and COPD! Through my blog I hope to help you discover your best way to find it."

"Jane has the knowledge and experience to not only help smokers quit, but also help those who are dealing with conditions related to a long-term smoking habit," said Chris Schroeder, CEO and President of The HealthCentral Network. "We're excited to offer the StopSmokingConnection.com community the chance to connect with such an accomplished medical professional."

Martin works as a Respiratory Therapist in Pulmonary Rehabilitation in Holland, Mich. She is a member of the Michigan Society for Respiratory Care, the American Association for Respiratory Care, the Asthma Network of West Michigan, and serves on the editorial boards of *The COPD Digest* and *Alpha-1-to-One*.

StopSmokingConnection.com, one of The HealthCentral Network's newest sites, is dedicated to helping smokers and former smokers on their quest to overcome addiction. The site also provides targeted information on COPD, one of the top health risks associated with smoking.

## About The HealthCentral Network

The HealthCentral Network, Inc. ([www.HealthCentral.com](http://www.HealthCentral.com)) is one of the top health destinations on the Web, with more than 30 condition-specific, wellness and general health Web properties. The company's unique approach offers readers extensive information and interactive resources – including news, video, and trusted medical information from Harvard Health Publications and others – and a patient-to-patient support network where community members can find and share experiences, resources and recommendations. The company also produces the nationally syndicated television show, "Medical Breakthroughs with Dr. Dean Edell," and has a library of nearly 1,000 short-form, condition-specific videos throughout its network.

By offering connections to renowned experts, a network of patients and caregivers who share “real world” experience, and in-depth information, sites in The HealthCentral Network make a meaningful difference in the lives of patients and caregivers.

The HealthCentral Network was acquired in 2005 by Polaris Ventures, Sequoia Capital, The Carlyle Group and Allen & Company, and has a management team that combines decades of interactive media, medical and journalism experience. CEO and President Christopher Schroeder was the CEO and Publisher of The Washington Post Co. (NYSE: WPO) interactive subsidiary, and General Manager Bill Allman led Discovery Channel's interactive division.

###