



Heart of a Champion

An afternoon of family fun with Hall of Famer Rod Carew

For immediate release

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(July 9, 2019 | Peoria, IL) - OSF HealthCare Cardiovascular Institute is proud to welcome baseball Hall of Famer Rod Carew to Peoria for an afternoon of family fun. The public is invited to this free event on **Saturday, August 24 from 12:30-4:00 p.m. at the Louisville Slugger Sports Complex at 8400 Orange Prairie Road in Peoria, IL.**

Carew was the 1967 Rookie of the Year, an All-Star for 18 consecutive seasons, the 1977 American League MVP and winner of seven batting titles. Carew is also a heart transplant recipient.

Fans can get their photo taken with Carew, and hear him share the story of his heart transplant to raise awareness for organ donation.

There will also be on-field activities for the entire family, including hitting, fielding and pitching instruction for kids, a dunk tank, face painting and a balloon artist.

Carew needed a new heart after suffering a massive heart attack in 2015. That need was answered in December of 2016. Since then Rod and his wife Rhonda have launched [The Heart of 29](#), a campaign to raise awareness about heart disease prevention. Twenty-nine was Rod's jersey number for his entire Major League career.

Fans can register online for a chance to win a baseball bat autographed by the legendary hitter. Please visit osfhealthcare.org/carew. Registration is encouraged, but is not required to attend this free event.

Event details:

- 12:30 - 4 p.m. - All activities
- 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. - Rod Carew photo availability
- 2 p.m. - Rod Carew - hear about his heart transplant and learn more about Gift of Hope
- 3 - 4 p.m. - Rod Carew photo availability

Activities:

- On-field baseball activities for children (running 12:30 - 4)
- Bounce house
- Concessions available for sale

Learn more about the [OSF Cardiovascular Institute](#).

Learn more about [Gift of Hope](#).