



For Immediate Release

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EPIC Long Island to Hold 2014 Walk for Epilepsy

EAST MEADOW, NEW YORK, October 13, 2014 – EPIC Long Island will host its annual fundraiser, *EPIC Walk for Epilepsy*, at Eisenhower Park (Field 1) in East Meadow on Saturday, October 25, 2014 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Proceeds raised at the event will benefit EPIC Long Island’s programs and services serving individuals with epilepsy, developmental disabilities and mental health challenges.

John Messina, Jr., a student at Chaminade High School, is the Grand Marshal of this year’s event. This past March, he was nominated by EPIC Long Island to represent Long Island teenagers with epilepsy and seizure disorders at the 2014 *Teens Speak Up!* Conference held in Washington, D.C. As an Epilepsy Advocate, Messina has committed to a Year of Service and is also active on EPIC Long Island’s Youth Council.

“John is an ideal choice to lead our event,” says Dolores Frederick, EPIC Long Island’s Event Coordinator. “In the last year, we’ve truly watched him blossom. He’s gone from being private about the challenges he’s faced with epilepsy, to an inspiring advocate, educating other teens about the condition on Facebook and through important events like the 2014 Teens Speak Up! and our 2014 Walk for Epilepsy.”

Participants are prepared to walk rain or shine, with added energy created by the sounds of We R Events and 2014 WBAB Homegrown Superstar Contest Winner, Sweet Suzi. There will also be exciting raffles and fun face painting for the kids.

Registration begins at 9:00 a.m. and costs \$35. Walkers can also pre-register for \$30. Children ten and under are free, and all participants receive a complimentary T-shirt. The walk will officially begin around 10:00 a.m.

“This year’s Walk promises to be another spectacular event,” comments Tom Hopkins, President & CEO of EPIC Long Island. “Seeing so many wonderful people come together to support a cause that is close to our hearts is just amazing. EPIC Long Island is grateful to our lead sponsors - James Bohl CPA PC, MD Parking and Team Nic a Nu – as well as numerous other donors who help make this day possible.”

Hopkins adds, “As with previous years, our walk takes place the weekend before November, nationally recognized as Epilepsy Awareness Month. As EPIC Long Island – the local affiliate of Epilepsy Foundation of America – dons our lavender ribbons, we ask others to “think purple” (the official color for epilepsy) to help spread the awareness in November...and hopefully beyond.”

To register for EPIC Long Island’s 2014 Walk, form a team or make a donation, visit www.epicli.org or <https://epiclongisland.myetap.org/fundraiser/>



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[EPICLongIslandWalk2014/](#). For additional information, contact Dolores Frederick at 516-739-7733 x1155.

ABOUT EPIC LONG ISLAND

EPIC began in 1953 with a small group of parents whose mission was to help children with epilepsy lead productive lives. Over sixty years later, the organization has fulfilled that promise with 15 residences, two clinics, and dozens of programs that serve over 10,000 individuals annually. EPIC has broadened its mission to offer more social and health services across Long Island and has grown to serve not only individuals with epilepsy, but also those with developmental disabilities and mental health challenges. While epilepsy is at its core, the organization offers a spectrum of superior services for individuals and families with different needs. EPIC's mission is to enrich the lives of those they serve through quality care, a broad range of services and an unwavering commitment to excellence.

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