



BRAIN ANEURYSM FOUNDATION

Raising Awareness. Ending Fear.™

269 HanoverStreet
Building 3
Hanover, MA 02339
(781) 826-5556 Phone
(781)826-5566 Fax
Tax ID No. 04-3243864
www.bafound.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

Jordan Feiger, JordanFeiger@gmail.com

Or www.debbiefeiger.com

The Brain Aneurysm Foundation joins the family and friends of Debbie Feiger for softball tourney The 5th annual memorial softball event will be held on Sunday, June 12, at Howard Park in Wilmette, Illinois

(Hanover, MA—June 6, 2016) The Massachusetts-based **Brain Aneurysm Foundation** has joined with the family and friends of **Debbie Feiger**, who died in 2011 from a brain aneurysm, to her honor her legacy as a mother and teacher at the 5th annual Debbie Feiger Memorial Softball Event at Howard Park. The money raised from this event will be used to raise awareness of brain aneurysms and support research into this disease.

“Local events, like this one in Wilmette, are what allow us to do the work we do,” said Brain Aneurysm Foundation Executive Director Christine Buckley. “Having so many people come together to honor the memory of Debbie will help us raise awareness about the need for more screening and support. The money raised from the 5th annual Softball Tourney will help fund much needed research. Debbie’s family and friends are truly making a difference by continuing to honor her memory.”

Registration for the 5th annual Softball event will open at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, June 12, 2016. The Softball event begins at 10 a.m. and will take place at Howard Park, 830 17th St., Wilmette, IL, 60091. This event is a non-competitive, fun softball event. Everyone older than the age of 11 is invited to play regardless of experience or ability. No mitts are required. Softballs used are “mush” type. Howard Park is between Ridge and 17th streets, just south of Lake Street.

Brain Aneurysms by the numbers:

- Six million people in the U.S. have a brain aneurysm, 30,000 of whom will suffer a rupture each year
- Of the 30,000, 60 percent will survive
- Of those who survive, approximately 66 percent will endure permanent neurological deficits that limit their ability to resume a normal life
- The cost of treating brain aneurysms and caring for those who have suffered a rupture nationally is in the hundreds of millions of dollars annually
- 50 percent of those who have a brain aneurysm rupture are less than 50 years old

This has been a busy time for the Brain Aneurysm Foundation. On May 11, 2016, the Foundation led a delegation of more than six-dozen brain aneurysm survivors, family members of those affected by the disease, advocates and medical professionals from around the country for a Congressional Advocacy Day on Capitol Hill, Washington, D.C. The delegation is scheduled to meet with key legislators including Senator Edward Markey (D-MA), Senator Kelly Ayotte (R-NH), and Representative Renee Ellmers (R-NC).

On May 3, 2016, the Brain Aneurysm Foundation participated in the #StrokeTalk as part of National Stroke Awareness Month with the CNN Chief Medical Correspondent Dr. Sanjay Gupta, National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke Director Dr. Walter Koroshetz, Million Hearts Executive Director Dr. Janet Wright, and Kaiser Permanente research scientist Dr. Mai Nguyen-Huynh. On April 21, 2016, the U.S. Senate

passed by acclamation Resolution 438 naming September as “National Brain Aneurysm Awareness Month,” which was introduced by Senators Markey and Ayotte. And on Sunday, April 21, 2016, more than 1,000 people gathered at Boston’s historic Fenway Park to participate in the 15th annual Arterial Challenge, a 5K Run and 3K Walk to fund research.

The Foundation also just launched a public awareness campaign featuring a PSA titled “Pleased to Meet You” that was created by the award-winning agency, HQ Creative. Link to the PSA Link:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/brainaneurysmfound>

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ABOUT THE BRAIN ANEURYSM FOUNDATION

The Brain Aneurysm Foundation is the globally recognized leader in brain aneurysm awareness, education, support, advocacy and research funding. Now celebrating more than 20 years’ of service, and led by Executive Director Christine Buckley, the Brain Aneurysm Foundation was established in 1994 in Boston, Massachusetts, with a mission to promote early detection of brain aneurysms by providing knowledge and raising awareness of the signs, symptoms and risk factors; work with the medical communities to provide support networks for patients and families; as well as to further research that will improve patient outcomes and save lives. **For more information about the Brain Aneurysm Foundation, visit www.bafound.org**