



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:

Holly Giffow Bos,
giffrowbos@q.com

The Brain Aneurysm Foundation joins the family and friends of Mary Thom for fundraiser The Appreciation for Life 5K to be held on Saturday, June 4, at the Braham Area Community Center

(Hanover, MA—June 2, 2016) The Massachusetts-based **Brain Aneurysm Foundation** has joined with the family and friends of Mary Thom for the Appreciation for Life Walk on Saturday, June 4, 2016, in honor of the educator who died in 2012 after suffering a brain aneurysm, a disease that affects an estimated 30,000 people annually.

Money raised from the Walk will be used to raise awareness of brain aneurysms and support research into this disease.

“Local events, like this one in Braham, 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 Mary’s memory will help us raise awareness about the need for more screening and support. The money raised from the Appreciation for Life 5K will help fund much needed research. Mary’s family and friends are truly making a difference.”

Registration for the Appreciation for Life 5K will open at 8 a.m. on Saturday, June 4, 2016. The Walk begins at 9 a.m. and will take place at the Braham Area Community Center, 655 8th St. SW, Braham, MN 55006.

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 met 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>

###

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**