



**BRAIN ANEURYSM
FOUNDATION**

Raising Awareness. Ending Fear.™

269 Hanover Street, Building 3
Hanover, MA 02339
Phone: 781- 826-5556
Fax: 781-826-5566
Tax ID #: 04-3243864
bafound.org

The Brain Aneurysm Foundation Hosts Third Annual Connecticut Awareness Walk

Event to be held in honor of Uliana Stocco on Saturday, June 2, at the West Hartford Reservoir

Hanover, MASS., May x, 2018 – West Hartford resident Diana Fritzson is organizing the third annual Connecticut Brain Aneurysm Awareness 5K Walk on June 2, in memory of her mother Uliana Stocco, who died from a ruptured brain aneurysm in 2014. The Walk will be held at the West Hartford Reservoir and proceeds raised will benefit the Brain Aneurysm Foundation’s work to raise awareness and research funding for the disease.

Fritzson, who started the event three years ago, lost both her mother and her grandmother to a brain aneurysm rupture. Following her mother’s passing, her doctor suggested she schedule a screening for herself, as brain aneurysms are hereditary. The results of her first test showed no brain aneurysm, however a recent screening detected a brain aneurysm. This summer Diana will undergo a craniotomy to clip the aneurysm to prevent it from bursting in the future.

“It has been my own experience that has inspired me to get involved and educate others about brain aneurysm disease and the resources available, such as the Brain Aneurysm Foundation,” said Fritzson. “It is also incredibly important that people are aware of the simple testing that is available to detect brain aneurysms. Over the past few years, I had the privilege of meeting several survivors, caregivers and family members of loved ones impacted by the disease.”

“It is great to see a community come together to celebrate survivors and honor those, such as Uliana Stocco, who lost their lives to a brain aneurysm rupture,” said Brain Aneurysm Foundation Executive Director Christine Buckley. “Every 18 minutes someone in the United States experiences a brain aneurysm rupture, so it is incredibly important to spread the word about the disease.”

Registration for the Connecticut Walk will open at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, June 2, 2018. The Walk begins at 9:30 a.m. and will take place at the West Hartford Reservoir, Red Loop Trail, 1420 Farmington Ave., West Hartford, Conn. The registration fee is \$30.

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.
- Women, more than men, suffer from brain aneurysms at a ratio of 3:2.
- African-Americans are twice as likely as Caucasians to experience a brain aneurysm rupture.
- 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.

- Currently the federal government only spends .83 cents per year on brain aneurysm research for each person afflicted.

ABOUT THE BRAIN ANEURYSM FOUNDATION

Founded in Boston and now based in Hanover, Massachusetts, the Brain Aneurysm Foundation is the globally recognized leader in brain aneurysm awareness, education, support, advocacy and research funding.

The foundation's mission is to provide information about and raise awareness of the symptoms and risk factors of brain aneurysms to prevent ruptures and subsequent death and disability; work with medical communities to provide support networks for patients and families; and advance research to improve patients' outcomes and save lives.

Established in 1994, the foundation is led by Executive Director Christine Buckley and has a Medical Advisory Board that comprises more than 30 of the nation's foremost aneurysm experts — neurologists, neurosurgeons, interventional neuroradiologists and other brain aneurysm specialists — from the country's leading hospitals and universities.

For more information about the Brain Aneurysm Foundation, visit bafound.org.

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For more information, please contact:

Nicole Mazarella

The Castle Group

617-337-9517

nmazarella@thecastlegrp.com