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November 2016

We are proud and honored to present the 2017 Credit Unions Kids at Heart Boston Marathon Team.

Credit Unions Kids at Heart is the credit union community's favorite public service activity and one of the largest credit union collaborative fundraising programs in the nation. In 2017, the Credit Unions Kids at Heart Team is continuing to focus its fundraising energy and resources on several pediatric brain research projects, including the search for treatments, therapies, and cures for Moyamoya disease, Sturge-Weber syndrome, Cerebral Palsy and brain tumors. This important neurological research is used by Children's hospitals and other care centers from all around the world. Not surprisingly, it is being performed by the scientists at one of the leading pediatric research centers on the planet—and our partner in this endeavor—

Boston Children's Hospital.

The cornerstone of the Credit Unions Kids at Heart fundraising efforts each year is the Boston Marathon, the most prestigious and popular road race of its kind. Although the Boston Marathon is a 'qualifying time' race, the Team is able to obtain several of the limited entries awarded for charitable fundraising purposes. Credit Unions Kids at Heart Team runners are individually paired with patient partners who have been treated by Boston Children's Hospital. Many of the patient partners have extraordinary medical challenges, but they also possess great spirit, faith, and courage. These incredible children, who overcome their own challenges every day, inspire the runners to achieve personal goals they never thought possible. The children are equally inspired by the runners' relentless training regimen, lasting throughout the long, cold winter months that precede the race. Most runners and patient partners form a special bond that endures well beyond the Marathon event.

About Credit Unions Kids @ Heart:

Jane Melchionda, president and CEO of Eastern Corporate Federal Credit Union (EasCorp) of Burlington, Massachusetts, founded Credit Unions Kids at Heart in 1996 with a small group of Massachusetts credit unions. Since that time, the program has expanded nationally to include dozens of participating credit unions. The program and its Team of dedicated supporters are presently committed to funding several pediatric research projects at Boston Children's Hospital, including: Moyamoya Disease, Sturge-Weber Syndrome, Pediatric Brain Tumors and Cerebral Palsy.

Introducing the 2017 Credit Unions Kids @ Heart Boston Marathon Team



WISAM AL-BAIDHANI AND MADDY LOFTUS

Six year old Maddy Loftus is happy to welcome first-time Credit Unions Kids @ Heart runner Wisam Al-Baidhani to our esteemed group! Wisam is a mortgage loan processor at Digital Federal Credit Union. This is Maddy's fourth year on the team. She and her two sisters, Jordan and Peyton along with mom Chrissy and dad Derek are ready to inspire and cheer on Wisam to the finish line.





Tim Birch, Chief Information Officer at EECU in Fort Worth,
Texas, is running his fifth Boston Marathon to honor patient
partner Adam Carty who is rejoining the Team after a one
year hiatus. Adam is four years old. His mom Kathryn is Vice
President of Business Development at EasCorp's sister
company, Vertifi Software. She, Adam, and Adam's twin
sister Emily, older brother Evan and dad Keith are looking
forward to getting to know Tim and root him on throughout
the next several months.



SEAN COVENEY AND RYAN CLOUGH

Third-year patient partner Ryan Clough is enthusiastic to team with Sean Coveney once again this year. This is Sean's second year with the Team. He is a Commercial Credit Analyst at Digital Federal Credit Union. Ryan has a sister Kaidyn and his mom and dad are both long-time credit union members. Mom Shannon, is an intensive special needs teacher, and dad Sam is a night shift custodian at the same school where Shannon teaches.

JIM DUDA AND SHANNON SMITH



Jim Duda is elated to be returning to the Credit Unions Kids @ Heart Team for his third Boston Marathon. Jim is an attorney and partner at Bulkley, Richardson and Gelinas, LLP, and he is teamed up with his second year patient partner, Shannon Smith. Not only is Shannon a patient partner, but she was the Team's first-ever patient partner to run and complete the Boston Marathon. Shannon is working presently as an intern at Disney World. Her mom Mary Fran is a registered nurse and her dad JB is a university professor and resident facility director. Jim is married to Gillian and has two daughters, Liz and Jessie.

MATT EDWARDS AND KATE ROKOS



This is the first pairing of first-time runner and patient partner Matt and Kate. Matt is a Sr. Manager, of Patient Advocacy at Vertex Pharmaceuticals. Matt has a passion for helping others and knew right away the CU Kids @ Heart Team was right up his alley. Kate is former patient of Boston Children's Hospital where she was treated for Cystic Fibrosis as a child. Kate works in the human resources field and also spends her time raising awareness for Cystic Fibrosis. We are happy to have this dynamic duo on our Team, and we look forward to learning more about CF, and getting to know Matt and Kate. By the way, wedding bells are in the air. Matt will be tying the knot during the summer of 2017 to his fiancée Elyse.

CARRIE FITZGERALD AND COLLIN HILL



Patient partner Collin Hill and his runner Carrie Fitzgerald are happy to be teamed up once again! Carrie is a Branch Manager at Merrimack Valley FCU. She and her husband Tim have two sons and a daughter, J.T., Connor and Kaleigh. Collin has a sister Allora and his mom Veronica works with Carrie at Merrimack Valley FCU as Head Teller. His dad Patrick serves in the US Army. This is the fourth year on the CU Kids @ Heart Team for both Collin and Carrie.



PAULA GUITARD AND DREW REGO

The Credit Unions Kids @ Heart Team is happy to welcome runner Paula Guitard and her patient partner Drew Rego! Paula works at Digital Federal Credit Union in the consumer loans department. She joins the team with the support of her husband Paul and two sons Connor and Ryan. This will be Paula's first marathon. Drew's mom Erin, dad Jason, and brother Dominic are looking forward to getting to know Paula and her family.



ADAM JONES AND EVERETT CHASE

Eight-year patient partner Everett Chase is thrilled to welcome first-time runner Adam Jones to the Team. Adam is an educator at Proctor Academy. He, his wife Kate, and their five year old twin boys Leo and Griffin are delighted be a part of the CU Kids @ Heart Team. Everett has two sisters, Meredith and Heather. His entire family, including his mom Michele and dad Peter are looking forward to getting to know Adam and his family.



SUSANNE LELACHEUR AND SAMMY SANSIL

Patient partner Sammy Sansil is returning for his fourth Marathon with the Credit Unions Kids @ Heart Team. He is overjoyed to be paired once again with Susanne LeLacheur for her second Boston Marathon. Susanne is a 7th grade social studies teacher and is the significant other of Vertifi Software's Corey Canada, who ran for the CU Kids @ Heart Team in 2008 and 2009. Sammy's dad, Alain, is the store manager for a local tire merchant, and his mom April is a radiologic technologist. Sammy's family is growing; a baby is on the way and due in April 2017 – maybe it'll be a marathon baby!





JR LINDEN IN MEMORY OF CJ BUCKLEY

Last year's CU Kids @ Heart Team Impact Award winner, Jr Linden could not pass up the chance to run (and dance) the 2017 Boston Marathon. This season promises to be another meaningful one as he runs to honor the memory of CJ Buckley. In 2002, at the age of 17, CJ passed away from a brain tumor. We welcome CJ's parents Lucy and Carter to the Team, and we know that they will join Jr's wife Cathy and daughter Sophie in lifting Jr's spirits with boundless cheers. In addition to his dance career, Jr is also the Director of Finance at Easter Seals of New Hampshire.



ROBERT LORING AND MADDY LOFTUS

Fourth-year patient partner Maddy Loftus welcomes firsttime runner Robert Loring to the Team! Robert is a
firefighter/paramedic in Reading, Mass. His wife Megan, a
nurse, son Thomas and daughter Freya already enjoy a
friendship with the Loftus family. Maddy's mom Chrissy is a
paramedic and her dad Derek is a firefighter/paramedic too.
Maddy has two sisters Jordan and Payton who will surely be
rooting for Robert and Maddy throughout the 2017
Marathon campaign.



ANDY MARTIN, RACING TO HONOR RAY PHILLIPS

Andy Martin was only three years old when he joined the Credit Unions Kids @ Heart Team in 2000 as a patient partner. Back then, he dreamed of one day racing for himself and, in 2017, for the third time, Andy will start and complete the Boston Marathon as a wheelchair racer in honor of his bond with long-time runner and friend, Ray Phillips.



ASIM MIAN AND VRAJ PUROHIT

Asim Mian, Senior Vice President, CIS for Vertifi Software, is running his first marathon for the Credit Unions Kids @ Heart Team. Asim is partnered with Vraj Purohit, a five year old "rookie" on the Team. He and his mom Bhavina and dad Nirav are already cheering for Asim and they look forward to getting to know him, his wife Amy, and their 7 year old son Daniyal.



MIKE MURPHY AND ABBY BERTHIAUME

Mike Murphy, President/CEO of Holyoke Credit Union, is running his second Boston Marathon for the Credit Unions Kids @ Heart Team and patient partner Abby Berthiaume. Mike and his wife Marybeth, are happy to be part of the CU Kids @ Heart Team once again this year. Abby is returning to the Team for the third time. She has two brothers, Josh and Noah. Her mom Angela is an Accounting Manager, and her dad Aaron is an English Teacher and Varsity Golf Coach.



DAN O'BRIEN, MATTY BRIDGES, AND KAYLA BIAGIOTTI

To prove that third-year Boston Marathon runner Dan O'Brien, Business Analyst at USAlliance Financial, is a Team member extraordinaire, he has not one, but two patient partners on the 2017 Team! Dan is joined with six-year patient partner, Matty Bridges, for the second consecutive year. Dan is also partnered with Matty's step sister, Kayla Biagiotti, who is celebrating her fifteenth year on the Team. Kayla's mom, Kris Biagiotti, has run for the Team numerous times, including 2013 when Kayla and Kris, known as the K Girls, became the first mother-daughter team to complete the Boston Marathon. Indeed Dan will be doubly inspired on his 26.2 mile trek into Boston! He, his wife Oana, and son Daniel are happy to be part of the CU Kids @ Heart Team, as are Matty's dad Brian and brother Jake.



DENISE OZOONIAN AND JACKSON CIACCIO

Denise Ozoonian has happily joined the team for her first ever marathon. Denise is a personal fitness trainer; and her husband Rob, a chef, and sons Jake and Cooper are looking forward to cheering her on. Denise is partnered with Jackson Ciaccio. Jackson has two sisters, Sophia and Lila, and his parents, John and Danielle, are thrilled to be returning to the Team in 2017.



RAY PHILLIPS AND CHRIS CARRE

When Ray Phillips crossed the finish line last April it marked his 100th marathon! This year he is partnering with four year old Chris Carre to continue on his amazing journey. Chris and his family are from Tewksbury Mass. This is Chris's first year with the Credit Unions Kids @ Heart Team. He, his dad Lundy and mom Laurie are looking forward to a getting to know Ray and supporting him throughout marathon season.



MIKE RZESZUTEK AND TIMMY STEVENS

Mike Rzeszutek is reunited with patient partner Timmy
Stevens for the third consecutive year. Mike is a Sales
Manager at Hanscom FCU, and his wonderful wife Melanie
will be urging him on. The freezing temperatures that
typically challenge the runners won't be a problem for her
because Melanie is originally from Alaska. Timmy is joining
us for his fifteenth season! Timmy's mom, Ellen Waddill,
works with children and families at The Professional Center
for Childhood Development, and his step-dad, Doug Waddill,
is in finance.



CAITLIN SMITH AND JOHN KENNEY

The Team is pleased to welcome back patient partner John Kenney and his first time CU Kids @ Heart runner Caitlin Smith. Caitlin is a sophomore at Syracuse University majoring in Political Science, with a minor in Management Studies. John's great big smile is all the inspiration she needs to accomplish her first Boston Marathon. John's dad Mark is a police officer, and his step mom Megan owns and operates a local hair salon. The Kenney and Smith families are sure to enjoy cheering for this dynamic duo!



JOE ZAMPITELLA AND JACKSON CIACCIO

Joe Zampitella, President of Members Mortgage is delighted to be teamed with patient partner Jackson Ciaccio as he runs his first ever marathon. Joe's wife Dottie and children, Joe and Andrea, will be cheering him on every step of the way. Members Mortgage also is a 2017 Credit Unions Kids @ Heart Corporate Sponsor.

Joe is also partnered with Jackson Ciaccio who will do double duty as a patient partner; something we expect he will handle with ease now that he and his family have been members of the Team for four years.



MARIANNE ZAWACKI AND SEAMUS SLATTERY

Marianne Zawacki, Vice President, Financial Services for Digital Federal Credit Union is running her second consecutive Boston Marathon to honor patient partner, Seamus Slattery. It's Seamus' ninth year as a patient partner, and he will join Marianne's husband Garrett, as well as the entire Slattery family—Seamus' twin brother Pat, his sister Maeve, his mom Lisa, and dad Jim to cheer her on.

Noteworthy Dates

November 29, 2016 — Giving Tuesday

December 3, 2016 — CU Kids @ Heart Kick-off party, Brea Burn Country Club, Newton, MA

February 25, 2017 — Super Hero 17 Fun Run, details TBA

March 25, 2017 — Hop 21 Fun Run, details TBA

April 15, 2017 — CU Kids @ Heart Party followed by Boston Children's Hospital Party, details TBA

April 17, 2017 — 121st Boston Marathon

May — Brain Tumor Awareness Month

May 6, 2017 — World Moyamoya Day

June 27, 2017 — Sturge-Weber Syndrome Awareness Day

October 4, 2017 — World Cerebral Palsy Awareness Day

Do you have questions or need more information about the Team?

Contact our Credit Unions Kids at Heart Coordinator:
Tracey Dickey at tdickey@eascorp.org or kidsatheart@eascorp.org, 800.428.1144, ext. 3320

Additional assistance provided by:
Vickie Stagliola at vstagliola@vertifi.com, 800.428.1144, ext. 3362
Eric Sargent at esargent@vertifi.com, 800.428.1144, ext. 3304

If you know someone who would like to donate, please ask them to send a check made payable to: "Credit Unions Kids @ Heart FFB Boston Children's Hospital."
Please send it to us here: EasCorp, 35 Corporate Drive, Suite 300, Burlington, MA 01803

Follow us on Facebook. Contact Tracey Dickey for details on how to follow us.

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