

2019 APDA MA OPTIMISM WALK FOR PARKINSON'S

AMERICAN PARKINSON DISEASE ASSOCIATION
MASSACHUSETTS CHAPTER

The 33rd Annual
APDA MA
Optimism Walk
for Parkinson's
raises \$184,365
to date



Another Great Optimism Walk - Thanks to You!

The 33rd Annual American Parkinson Disease Association MA Chapter Optimism Walk for Parkinson's Disease took place at a brand new location. The City of Framingham's Bowditch Field provided the backdrop for this year's warm and sunny Walk. Teams and individuals gathered from all across Massachusetts to raise funds for Parkinson's disease education, research, and support.

All funds raised at the Walk support research approved by the APDA Scientific Advisory Board, as well as programs and services throughout Massachusetts.

Kris Stapleton, APDA MA Chapter President, kicked off the festivities with some opening remarks thanking everyone for all of the hard work they had done. Ms. Stapleton also took the time to thank this year's "Circle of Optimism" members, the individuals who raised at least \$1000 for the Walk. Congratulations, and a big thank you, to this year's recipients!

During the opening ceremony, Ms. Stapleton also announced this year's college scholarship winners. Each year, the APDA MA Chapter conducts a scholarship competition for high-school seniors who showed exceptional volunteerism in the Parkinson's community. This year, the Chapter was pleased to award five \$500 scholarships. Congratulations to Aaron Blanchard, Max Coppola, Jason Manz, Evan Murphy, and Shane Ross. Good luck to all as they embark on the first years of their college careers!

In addition to the scholarships, each year the Chapter awards the Shawn Thornton Award. The award is named for NHL player Shawn Thornton and his foundation, which works tirelessly to raise funds for Parkinson's disease. The award is presented to an individual (or individuals) who demonstrates outstanding service, dedication, care and/or volunteerism in support of those living with Parkinson's disease. This year the Corduck Family, who has provided their time and services to the Optimism Walk over the past decade, received the sixth annual Shawn Thornton Award. Thank you to the Corducks for their work and generosity.



Congratulations to this year's scholarship recipients!

At noon Santi from Jamn 94.5 announced the beginning of the Walk, and the participants began their 3 mile trek around the beautiful Bowditch Field Track. The APDA MA Chapter was excited to be able to hold this year's Walk at the new Bowditch Field. The location featured a flat, even track and plenty of space for all of the wonderful sponsors and information tables, as well as space for families to spread out and enjoy the afternoon. Denyse Turpin, volunteer Walk Committee Member, expressed the Chapter's gratitude to the city: "Every person that we met from the City of Framingham was kind and helpful, and we were very excited to be able to work on this Walk with them."

New England Ice Cream provided ice cream and popsicles to help beat the heat, and the Lions Club of Framingham handed out pizza and sold other refreshments to benefit their charitable activities. The Chapter was also thrilled to welcome back the team from Alfredo Aiello's Italian Foods who provided delicious cannoli and Italian cookies to the walkers.

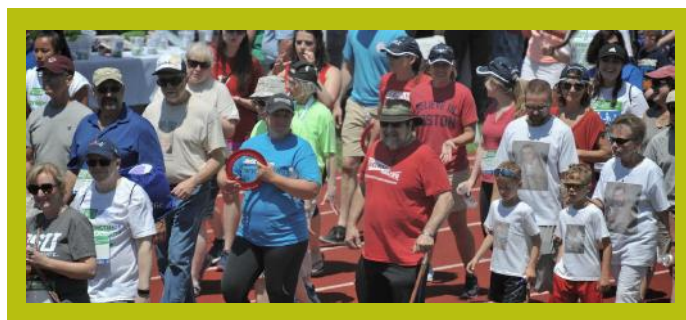


On the track, representatives from pharmaceutical companies, local hospitals, local services and more were available to provide information about their products and services for people with Parkinson's.

As always, we want to give our thanks to photographer Cory Brett. He took lots of great pictures at this year's event. You can check them out (and some photos from fellow walkers!) throughout this Walk Story. You can also see more photos online on the APDA MA Chapter Facebook page: facebook.com/APDAMA.

For an extra fun activity at the Walk, the Chapter continued its annual raffle tradition. This year's raffle, organized by APDA Board Member Meg McAuliffe and volunteers, raised over \$2000 for the Walk. All prizes received by the Chapter were donated by companies and individual supporters. They included a variety of great items including an autographed Bruins Hockey Stick, a Bose mini-speaker, and a lot more. Congratulations to all of our lucky winners!

Thanks to the incredible generosity of the Massachusetts Parkinson community, \$184,364.95 has been raised, to date! We have been able to exceed our goal of \$175,000, and we couldn't have done it without your help!



We are happy to congratulate first place team DopaFit Warriors for their fundraising success, raising \$23,470. Other top teams were WPDSG Movers, Shakers, & Stiffs; Team Papa Jay; Team DominACHIN; Plymouth Rock Steady Boxing; Carole's Crusaders; Butch's Brigade and Roy's Kids. We also were incredibly fortunate to have a number of fantastic individual fundraisers this year who all raised over \$2,500. We'd like to thank Rick Burkhardt of DopaFit Warriors; John & Deb Trainor from WPDSG Movers, Shakers, & Stiffs; Kimberly Creem of Carole's Crusaders; Patricia Underwood from the team Roy's Kids; individual walker Roberta Berberian; and Anita Wassersug, raising funds for Team Papa Jay. We want to thank you all once again for your incredible efforts! Check out our website to see how great all of our teams and individuals walkers did: apdama.org.

We would like to thank all of our volunteers, team captains, walkers, and sponsors for supporting the APDA Massachusetts Chapter this year and without whom this event could not be possible. We could not have done this without you and hope to see everyone again next year! Remember, it's not too late to make a donation.

A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR SPONSORS AND VOLUNTEERS!

Sponsors

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Saint Elizabeth's Medical Center

Special Thanks to:

The City of Framingham
Alfredo Aiello Italian Foods
New England Ice Cream

Volunteers

Brant Abraham
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Chris Dare
Maria Dare
Allison DiBona
Joseph Feiner
Marcia Goldfinger
Beni Goodwin
Beth Hagan
Daniel Harvey
Katherine Kulig
Nate Leeson
Catherine Mase
Meg McAuliffe
Kent Moffatt
Chad Moir
Emi Nishino
Rosemary Owen
Timmy Santoro
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Kristin Stapleton
Linda Thistle
Cathi Thomas
Marty Thomas
Laurie-Jo Tullis
Bob Tullis
Denyse Turpin
Mike Turpin
Kim Tushel
Alex Yen

Walk Chairs

Rosemary Owen
Kristin Stapleton

Cathi Thomas
Denyse Turpin

Walk Committee

Gail Achin
Allison DiBona
Joseph Feiner
Daniel Harvey
Chris Maltinsky

Meg McAuliffe
Kent Moffatt
Saba Shahid
Christine Tran



YOU'RE THE BEST! TEAMS & TEAM CAPTAINS 2019 OPTIMISM WALK

62 Teams in total:

110 Fitness - Kim Moore

Ashland Clockers - Carol
Bartley

Bridgewater State

COMD - Amy Porter
Wareham

BUMC Neurology-

Rosemary Owen

Butch's Brigade- Linda
Welch

Carole's Crusaders -

Kimberly Creem

Cavas - Nancy Cavallaro

Dopa Schmopa - Laurie
Jo Tullis

DopaFit Warriors - Chad
Moir

Ed's Striders - John &
Doreen Comeau

Ellen's Team - Ellen
Spector

For Each Other - Kristin
Stapleton

Full of Hart - Amanda
Girard

Grammy's Team -
Maryellen Fitzgerald

HAV for Dad - Andrea
Kingman

Hope Makes Sense -
Diana Archibald

Johnny B - John
Butterworth

Ken's Krew - Nadine
Brodie

Magic Miles for Mimi -
Jennifer Barnard

Mansfield Walkers -
Debra Collins

Mary's Gang - Donna
Cole

MEREDITH'S TEAM

WESTERN MASS -
Kimberly Lambert

Metrowest RSB

Warriors - Joseph Feiner
Mikey - Roberta

Zackman

MYP-Boston - Justin
Tettenborn

Papa Flash - Holly
German

Papa Paul's Peeps -
Brandon Westfield

Past and Present - Tara
Watts

PD Warriors - Sara
Crandall

**Plymouth Rock Steady
Boxing** - Lisa Braun

Rick and Jamie - Rick
Cresswell

Rock Steady Boxing

Tri - Valley - Jennifer
Nardi

**Rose's Red Hot Chili
Steppers** - Lindsay Ross

Rota Rooters - Steve
Blacker

Royal Wayland

Walkers - Linda Miller

Roy's Kids - Sharon
Manz

Scherzer - Clemens
Scherzer

**St. Elizabeth Medical
Ctr Neurology** - Keith J.
Ciccione

Steve's Angels - Allison
DiBona

Sunovion - Samantha
Hack

SuperMom - Blanca
Rosales & Vicky Jimenez



Team Dare – Maria Dare
Team DominACHIN - Gail Achin
Team Fred – Susan Manna
Team J.R. – Melissa MAHR
Team JB – Team JB
Team Papa Jay – Anita Wassersug
Team Robo! – Stephanie Hamel
Team Spertner – David Spertner
TEAM TIM – Stacie Dolan
Team Tom – Kate St. Clair
The Mighty Maddogs – James Madden
The ParkinSUNNIES – Catherine Mase
The Shaky Ladies Group – Cindy Bittker
The Wicked Walkahs – Jeff Saret
The Yorkshire Puddings - Lucy White
Tufts Health Quality of Life Lab - Michael Stevenson
UMass Walks for PD - Anindita Deb
Until There's a Cure there's a Community - Daniel Harvey
Voyager Therapeutics - Liana Joubert
WPDSG Movers, Shakers, & Stiffs - Tom Olson

Gifts In – Kind:
 99 Restaurant
 Alfredo Aiello Italian Foods
 Bertucci's Brick Oven Pizza & Pasta
 Bob & Laurie Jo Tullis Bose
 Boston Bruins
 Boston Red Sox
 Chateau Restaurant
 DelFrisco's Grille
 Hy-Line Cruises
 Improv Asylum
 Institute of Contemporary Art
 Isabella Stewart Gardener Museum
 Market Basket
 Massachusetts Bay Lines
 New England Aquarium
 New England Ice Cream
 Not Your Average Joe's
 Red Sox
 Starbucks
 Trader Joe's
 Wachusett Mountain

