



News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Team Walker to Run 121st Boston Marathon

Needham, MA – On April 17, 2017 nearly 30,000 runners will start the running of the 121st Boston Marathon®. The 26.2-mile route extends through Hopkinton, Ashland, Framingham, Natick, Wellesley, Newton, Brookline, and Boston. On this day, ten individuals representing Team Walker will run in support of Walker's mission of transforming the lives of children facing extraordinary challenges.

Walker received ten bibs from John Hancock as part of their Non-Profit Marathon Program. Each year John Hancock donates guaranteed entries to select nonprofits, which use these entries to recruit individual runners to raise money for their cause. Last year, John Hancock nonprofit runners raised more than \$11 million for over 140 different local organizations. For over 30 years John Hancock has been the principal sponsor of the Boston Marathon®. The Company's continued support of the Boston Athletic Association, which has directed the race since 1897, ensures that the race will continue to be a world-class event and an important facet of Boston's culture and heritage.

This is an exciting time for the Walker community. In the weeks leading up to the Marathon, Walker's students, staff, and community partners gather to support and rally around the organization's runners in honor of the life-changing services Walker provides to children and families throughout Massachusetts.

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Walker is pleased to announce that the following ten individuals will run as Team Walker on April 17th:

- Eric Bailey of Rutland is running his fourth marathon.
- Frank Doyle of Lexington is running his sixth marathon.
- Becca Doyle of Lexington is running her first marathon.
- Ryan Joy of Chestnut Hill is running his first marathon.
- Lauren Leverone of Forestdale is running her second marathon.
- Christopher Macek of Lexington is running his first marathon.
- Krystian Macek of Winchester is running his first marathon.
- Paul Marty of Shanghai, China is running his first marathon.
- Libby Pohl of Weston is running her first marathon.
- Athenea Yap of Toronto, Ontario is running her third marathon.

“We are proud to have these ten individuals represent Team Walker at the 121st Boston Marathon. As they work hard to achieve their milestones and goals, they are helping children who face significant behavioral, emotional, and learning challenges achieve theirs. We continue to be inspired by this incredible event, and we are deeply grateful for this opportunity provided by John Hancock,” said Susan M. Getman, MSW, President & CEO of Walker.

About Walker

Walker is a leading nonprofit organization providing intensive therapeutic and academic services for children facing complex mental health, emotional, behavioral, and learning challenges. Founded in 1961, Walker’s evidence-based programs positively impact thousands of children, teens, and families throughout Massachusetts. Walker provides services through campuses in Needham and Watertown, community-based clinical and youth development programs, professional seminars, consultations, and Walker staff embedded in public schools. For more information, visit walkercares.org.

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