



NY Metro Area Chapter



Eden Prairie, We Have Liftoff!

Welcome to the first edition of our Star Legacy NY Metro newsletter!

Formed in the summer of 2015, the New York Metro Chapter is Star Legacy Foundation's first affiliate outside Minnesota, and we plan to use this newsletter to share important and exciting news about our activities!

Let's start by introducing our chapter leaders (pictured above). From left to right:

Hilary Hughes, Chairwoman

Samantha Durante Banerjee, Vice Chairwoman

Theresa Juva-Brown, Communications Chair

Amanda Donohue, Events Chair

Eleni Michailidis, Medical Chair

Not pictured: Bobbie Cohlman, Outreach Chair

Our History

After many of us met at Oliver's 5K in May 2015, we realized we are a passionate group of parents and grandparents who want to do something to raise awareness about stillbirth and prevent other families from

enduring this tragedy. There is nothing like Star Legacy in our area, so Hilary and her family worked with leaders in Minnesota to get things started. We've all come together with our own experiences, talents and expertise to help spread the Star Legacy mission.

Since then, we've met several times. We had another successful meeting on Dec. 6th as we continue to work on our chapter launch plans and next year's goals and events. More details below!

Mark Your Calendars! Upcoming Events

The second annual Oliver's 5K (named in memory of Hilary's first son) will be held **April 30, 2016** at Meadow Pond Elementary School in South Salem.

Another 5K run/walk is also planned for Long Island, tentatively scheduled for **April 17, 2016** at Bar Beach Park in Port Washington.

Both events will be professionally timed, with coordinating race t-shirts and branding to maximize the reach of our message!

Funds raised from the events will go to specific Star Legacy programs that our chapter is enthusiastic about supporting (TBA).

3, 2, 1... Take off! Launch Plans Update

We're currently creating informational packets to introduce our chapter to local hospitals, OBs, and grief support groups.

We have identified 11 hospitals, 5 OB/GYN groups, and 4 grief groups in the region for our initial push.

Our goal is to partner with these providers to increase stillbirth awareness, maximize prevention efforts, and improve post-loss support for local families.

We hope to start reaching out to these hospitals/groups in mid-January! Keep your eye out for **volunteer sign-up** coming soon!

To stay connected, learn more about stillbirth, and share your stories, please "Like" our [Facebook page](#)! Questions or comments? [Email us](#) or send us a message on Facebook, and we'll get back to you asap.

Lastly, we know this is a difficult time of year for families who have lost babies. We hope peace, love and joy find you this holiday season.

Take care,
Hilary, Samantha, Theresa, Amanda, Eleni & Bobbie
