Calling all crafters: baby gifts needed! Also: legislator letters, hospital meetings, and more! -- Star Legacy NY Metro Chapter

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Record-Breaking 2018 5Ks!

Final tallies are in, and we are *elated* to announce that with the generous support of our participants, donors, and sponsors, our 2018 Let’s Not Be Still! 5K events surpassed even our STRETCH GOAL for fundraising, breaking a new record with a total of $140,104.30!!! Every dollar raised goes directly towards driving stillbirth research, education, awareness, and support in our local area and beyond.

We also shattered attendance records this year with 500+ people in Long Island and 175+ in Westchester, including almost a dozen new families who we are both heartbroken and overjoyed to welcome to our community.

We have ambitious plans for 2018, and utilizing proceeds from the 5Ks, we are already making progress towards several goals. Since the 5Ks:
- We’ve met with 8 new hospitals/clinics in the NY Metro Area and trained several volunteers to conduct additional partner meetings to further expand our reach
- 4 NY State Legislators have committed to introducing a Stillbirth Tax Credit bill and a newly-formed NY Legislative Committee is actively recruiting more
- Chapter membership is exploding - our Active Volunteer List is up 20% since April!
- Peer Companions continue to support families across the tri-state area
- Our Chapter Facebook page raises awareness daily by reaching over 700 followers

Again, thank you, thank you, thank you to all who contributed in ways large and small to Let’s Not Be Still! 2018 New York - we absolutely could not continue our momentum without your support!

Photos from both events available here:
South Salem, 4/28/18 | Port Washington, 5/5/18
Volunteer Opportunities!

-- Baby Gifts --

Calling all crafters! We need help replenishing our stocks of gifts for babies who sadly pass away.

Simple patterns and materials supplied, no sewing skill necessary for the (very popular) hats!

Our hospital partners provide these matching sets of blankets, hats, and diapers (one to leave with baby and one for the family to keep) at a time when many families are distraught and don't have anything to bring home that touched their baby's skin or a cute outfit for once-in-a-lifetime photos. Though quick and easy to make, these gifts are priceless to the recipients, helping to create irreplaceable memories of a cherished child.

You can make them at your own pace from home - all sizes needed from itty bitty wraps to full-size diapers and hats. Just email us and we'll get you set up with everything you need!

-- Write Your Reps: Tax Credit --

Our Legislative Committee is conducting a letter writing campaign to garner support for the NY State Stillbirth Tax Credit.

This new law that would ease the financial burden on families who lose a baby in our region through a one-time tax credit and recognize stillborn babies on par with other babies who sadly die in their first year of life.

We have a long list of NY State Legislators we are reaching out to, and we need your help!

If you would be willing to email/call some NY State Representatives, please email us and we will provide you with form letters and contact information!

Mark Your Calendars with Upcoming Events

We hope to see you at these upcoming events!

-- Fall Social Sept 15th --

Social Gathering for NY Metro Area Families
(Kids and grandparents/extended family are welcome)

Not a support group and not "quite" a party, this is somewhere in between - just an informal opportunity to get to know each other better!

Saturday, Sept. 15th, 2018
To be held at a Private Residence in NJ
(Time/location details will be sent in an Evite closer to the date)

Please email us if you'd like to attend, and we'll make sure you're on the invite list!

-- Stillbirth Summit 2019 --

June 19-21, 2019
Minneapolis, MN
starlegacyfoundation.org/summit19

The Stillbirth Summit is a unique medical conference focused on issues around stillbirth and related perinatal losses. Held biennially, the roundtable format encourages dialogue amongst the panel of researchers from around the world. Researchers, health professionals, and families are all welcome to join!

Sign up for updates here (Complete the "RECEIVE UPDATES" form at the bottom)

Did you know? It's tradition at the international Stillbirth Summit conference to hang stars from the ceiling, each with the name of a stillborn baby. If you'd like your baby to be part of this poignant reminder for why we are all there at Summit 2019, submit your (free!) request today! Form here (click the "ADD A
Initiatives starting soon in CT and NJ - please contact us if you'd like to be involved!

-- More Options --

We are always actively recruiting volunteers to serve as Peer Companions, help out with Events, and conduct Partner Outreach to help connect us to more hospitals and medical providers in our area.

If you'd like to help with any of the above, please email us and we will connect with you the appropriate committee leader.

No experience necessary, and no minimum time commitment. We will train you (over videoconference!) to pitch in wherever you wish to contribute, and will help you find activities you can do from home on your own schedule!

Follow us on Facebook to stay up-to-date with upcoming events and volunteer opportunities in our area!

www.facebook.com/NYMetroStarLegacyFoundation/

Be sure to click Like and Follow in order to see our posts in your News Feed!

Your Help Needed!

If you haven't already, please take a moment to review Star Legacy Foundation at Great Nonprofits. Our 5-star rating is incredibly important toward qualifying for grants to continue our life-saving work!

Thanks to all for your continued support!

We are *so* grateful to have such a dedicated community behind us every step of the way.

Please know that everything we do is in honor of all of our babies; in their memories, we will continue to drive research, education, awareness, and prevention --- because every pregnancy deserves a happy ending!

As always, don't hesitate to email us with ideas, questions, or comments!

Best wishes,

Hilary, Samantha, Amanda, Eleni, Christine & Bobbie
(Star Legacy Foundation NY Metro Chapter Chairs)