



Long Island Crisis Center

It's OK to ask for help

Fall
2010

TAKING STEPS TOWARDS SAVING LIVES

On September 26 more than 350 people participated in *Let's Walk, Let's Talk...Stepping Together to Prevent Suicide*. The walk along the Long Beach boardwalk raised more than \$21,000 for Long Island Crisis Center, much-needed funds for our vital suicide prevention services, particularly community education and online counseling. Thank you to our sponsors and everyone who participated in the walk.



Brian Coyle (middle right) walks with friends and family. Brian, who lost his brother to suicide, gave a personal address to the crowd before the walk.



Warming up with NY Sports Club volunteers.

Organized by teacher Jennifer Pomponio (bottom right), Garden City High School students raised \$500 for the walk.



Legislator Denise Ford (right), who has organized the Long Beach walks for LICC, was presented with LICC's Linda Nadle Award for Community Service. Presenting the award is LICC Board President Dorothy Jacobs.



Walkers are greeted at the "finish line" by PFY Program Leaders.



THANK YOU WALK SPONSORS:

Verizon, Geico, Legislator Dave Denenberg, Legislator Denise Ford, the Alexis Pilkington Memorial Foundation, Pop's Wine & Spirits, Hot4You Yoga, Kohl's, Charity Begins at Home, United Benefit Pensions, the Grebinger family, Allegria Hotel, Moe's Southwest Grill, Swingbellys, Lola's Kitchen & Wine Bar, Cannon Kickboxing, Creative Florist, NY Sports Club, The Nicole Schiffman Foundation, and the Carol Kestenbaum Foundation.

SOP EXPANDS ITS REACH

Sabine Mondesir, Street Outreach Coordinator, has begun a four-part workshop for young people at the Nassau County Juvenile Detention Center. Based on a life-planning education curriculum, the goal of the workshop is to increase the knowledge and skills of incarcerated youth, ages 12-17, so that they can keep violence and gangs out of their lives when they re-enter the community.

Sabine is also back for a second year with her girls' group at Westbury Middle School. The weekly meetings focus on building life skills and self-esteem for the girls.

The Street Outreach team has added the Long Beach community to their list of neighborhoods that they visit. The team travels in a specially-marked van and provides information, education, counseling and other health-related services to street-involved youth.

SOP is proud to announce it has a new Outreach/Gang Intervention Specialist. **DeAngelo Williams** travels with the SOP outreach team and will also be presenting Gang Prevention workshops in local schools.

WELCOME new PFY Program Leaders & SOP Peer Educators. They celebrated the end of their intense 6-week training with a "graduation" on September 7.



Thank you to **Frantic Fran's Theatre Group** who donated \$1,200 of the proceeds from their summer production of *Rent* to PFY. The actors also spoke about PFY youth services at the performances.

PFY would also like to thank **Kelli's Bar** in Wantagh and singers A.J. Shanti and Marcy Lang for an October 16 fundraising event that raised \$1,500.

NASSAU COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION AWARDS PRIDE FOR YOUTH



Celeste Curry (third from right) of the Nassau County Bar Association presents a check from the **We Care Fund** to LICC Executive Director Linda Leonard and Associate Executive Director Andy Peters. The Bar Association's *We Care* Fund distributes charitable grants to improve the quality of life for young people and others in need throughout Nassau County. This year's \$3,000 gift was used to take 16 young Pride for Youth participants on a week-long camping and education trip to Boston and surrounding areas. Looking on are LICC board members (left to right) Norman Kay, Lisa Veglia, Mike Finland, Dorothy Jacobs and (right) Virginia Marshalek.



Dignity for All Students Act (DASA) was signed into NY state law on September 8. The law requires all NY schools to adopt policies that prevent discrimination and harassment based on, among other things, sexual orientation and gender identity. At Empire State Pride Agenda's *Community Dialogue*, PFY received recognition for its work to protect LGBT students in the schools. Pictured here are: PFY Program Leader Coordinator Tawni Engel and Program Leaders Ryan Jewels and Meredith Barranco.

NORMAN'S RIDE



Congratulations to LICC Board member and former hotline counselor Norman Kay on completing the 145-mile *Ride to Montauk*. Norman made his bike trip a fundraiser and raised more than \$3,200 for the center's crisis intervention services.

STAYING SAFE IN CYBER SPACE

Thanks to a very generous \$10,000 grant from Bethpage Federal Credit Union, LICC is developing a new anti-cyber bullying initiative. This will include a video that will air on youth-friendly cable channels and a new workshop for our community educators to present in local schools.



Robert Suarez of Bethpage FCU presents the check to Executive Director Linda Leonard.

AAS CERTIFICATION RENEWED

In September Long Island Crisis Center underwent a site visit from the American Association of Suicidology. LICC has been certified by AAS for the past ten years, and this year's examiner was particularly impressed with the quality of our training and with *Infobase*, our new computer system for logging in calls and searching for referrals.

LICC'S 2010 PERSON OF THE YEAR



On October 7, LICC proudly honored Nassau County Police Detective Lt. Gary Shapiro with its **2010 Person of the Year** award for his "dedication and commitment to enhancing the safety and quality of life for all Long Islanders." Gary is the Bias Crime Coordinator and the Deputy Commanding Officer of the Community Affairs Unit. Pictured at the award ceremony, from left to right, are: LICC Associate Executive Director Andy Peters, Det. Lt. Gary Shapiro, and Nassau County Police Commissioner Lawrence W. Mulvey.



Thank you to **Verizon Foundation** for being a \$2,000 sponsor for the September Long Beach Suicide Prevention walk. Patrick Lespinasse (left) of Verizon toured the crisis center with Linda Leonard and Andy Peters.

POP'S & THE JETS

On September 25, **Pop's Wine and Spirits** of Island Park sponsored a NY Jets event in support of the crisis center. Players Wesley Walker and Emerson Boozer were on hand to celebrate the limited release of Jet's Uncorked, a 2008 Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon. Pop's donated proceeds of the sales to LICC, and the Jets donated raffle prizes that included free tickets and autographed helmets and jerseys.



*Pictured (left to right): SuperBowl III Championship team member **Emerson Boozer**, SOP intern Stacy Zamchick, SOP Outreach Specialist DeAngelo Williams, and Jets receiver **Wesley Walker**.*

ISLAND TREES NJHS RAISES MONEY FOR LICC



After discussions in English class about helping at-risk teenagers, Island Trees National Jr. Honor Society members were inspired to raise money for local organizations, including LICC. The students presented their donation to LICC Associate Director Theresa Buhse (center). Thank you to these students for their compassion and hard work.

Pride for Youth
(516) 679-9000

Crisis Intervention Hotline
(516) 679-1111
Huntington Hotline
(631) 549-8700
Children of Hope Hotline
(877) 796-HOPE
National Suicide Prevention Hotline
1-800-273-TALK
1-800-SUICIDE
LIRR Suicide Hotline
1-877-5-TALK-TO-US

Online Counseling
www.liccconline.org

For more information
or to volunteer
(516) 826-0244
www.longislandcrisiscenter.org

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