

CENTRAL MASS. POP WARNER and UMASS CANCER WALK

Tantasqua Pop Warner's 4th year "Walking to Cure Cancer"

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TPW Board Member

Each September, the UMass Medicine Cancer Walk brings thousands of walkers to the UMass Medical School campus in Worcester, in an effort to raise cancer awareness and to combat this horrible disease. Passionate teams of walkers formed by businesses and their employees, organizations like Central Mass. Pop Warner, individuals and other community supporters raise funds supporting cancer research and care at the UMass Medicine Cancer Center of Excellence.

Central Mass. Pop Warner is committed to participating, supporting, and cheering on the walkers in the UMASS Cancer Walk. The Walk to Cure Cancer is an opportunity for our League, Participants and their Families to support the true definition of **"Giving Back"** to our Community. Each and every year, Tantasqua Pop Warner brings its Cheerleaders, Football Players and their Families, to cheer on and walk with, the more than 12,000 walkers.

"The Cancer Walk is a great opportunity for the families of Tantasqua Pop Warner to support such an important cause as funding a cure for cancer. Cancer has impacted so many individual families throughout the years and this event gives our program the opportunity to unite as one family on this date to walk in support of lost loved ones and those still battling cancer" states Peter Morrow, TPW President

The newly renamed UMass Medicine Cancer Walk has continued its tradition established in 1999, when the first Walk to Cure Cancer took place on Labor Day. Since then, the annual event has raised more than \$6.5 million to benefit cutting-edge cancer research at UMass Medical School and the UMass Memorial Cancer Center of Excellence.



Deborah Burt on left and Laura Andersen right together raised \$625.00 for last year's 12th Annual Walk to Cure Cancer

Funds raised by the five-mile walk have supported research studies, state-of-the-art laboratory facilities and equipment and, most importantly, the world-renowned scientists and medical professionals of UMass Medical School and UMass Memorial who are collaborating to find a cure.

Michael Blute Director of UMass Memorial Cancer Center of Excellence stated in a speech last year "You know, 4 years ago this country declared war on cancer, but some people think we have not advanced enough, but there's evidence that we are making progress. Today more people are surviving cancer than dying of the disease; so that's evidence of progress.

Blute continued, "What we need now is a surge and we want UMass Memorial to lead that surge. We're at the right place, right time and have the right resources to do that here on this campus. We have world class cancer biology researchers that are making discoveries every day. We have state-of-the-art facilities that are built with the patients focus in mind, allowing us to bring those innovations and breakthroughs in a state-of-the-art facility that really puts the patient first."

He would go on to say "We're excited about the possibilities but we can't do it alone and we need your support"

This year the Cancer Walk will again be held on the campus of UMASS Medical School, 55 Lake Avenue in Worcester, Sunday, September 25. Open registration will begin at 8:00 am, with the Walk beginning at 10am.

For more information, please go to

<http://www.umassmed.edu/cancerwalk>