

Taking it to the Streets in the Fight Against Childhood Cancer

Walk-A-Thon and Health/Fitness Expo To Be Held In The Inland Empire

The Black Voice News

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The Anthony J. Nickols, Jr. Foundation is proud to announce their 2nd Annual "Walk For Life" to cure childhood cancer. On Saturday, April 17, 2004, residents of the Inland Empire and surrounding areas will walk in memory of Anthony J. Nickols, Jr., who died from non-Hodgkins Lymphoma, a form of childhood cancer. The event will be held on the campus of Eisenhower High School, located at 1321 North Lilac Avenue, Rialto, California. The 5k, (3 mile) walk will officially begin at 8:30 AM, along with a Health and Fitness Expo, which will include free health information and screenings. The Walk-A-Thon is held to bring awareness to the disease and work towards finding a cure for childhood cancer. This year's "Walk For Life" theme is "Taking it to the Streets for a Cure."

Anthony J. Nickols Jr., described as an energetic, giving and fun loving teenager, was diagnosed with non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma Cancer in November 1997, during his senior year at Eisenhower High School. After



Anthony J. Nickols, Jr.

two years of struggling with the deadly disease, he lost his battle for life in 1999, at the young age of 19.

The Walk, which was established by his family, is in honor of Anthony's memory and designed to bring awareness to cancer research through donations and support of his foundation. In addition to finding a cure for cancer, the Anthony J. Nickols, Jr. Foundation also raises money to help the families of children who are coping with this terrible disease.

The Anthony J. Nickols, Jr. Walk for Life offers individuals, families, businesses and organizations in the Inland Empire and Los Angeles County, the opportunity to join the fight against childhood cancer. According to the National Childhood and Candlelighters Childhood

Cancer Foundations, it is estimated that over nine thousand children were diagnosed with cancer in America last year. Each year cancer kills more children between 1 and 20 years of age than asthma, diabetes, cystic fibrosis, and AIDS, combined. Due to these overwhelming statistics, the Anthony J. Nickols, Jr. Foundation has raised and distributed thousands of dollars in donations to organizations such as the Candlelighters Childhood Cancer Foundation.

Proceeds from this year's Anthony J. Nickols, Jr. Walk for Life, will help to support childhood cancer research. The Walk-A-Thon is sponsored by the Anthony J. Nickols, Jr. Foundation, Inc. and bd Systems, a High-Technology and Systems Integration Company. Based in Torrance, California, bd Systems provides services to government and private industries.

Walk-For-Life participants will also have an opportunity to win a variety of prizes, including a Dell Laptop Computer, X-Box, Playstation II, and a Portable DVD Player.

For more information, contact Toi Moore at (909) 410-5151 or Tobin and Associates at (323) 856-0827. To register call (323) 462-8010, or visit the website at www.nickolswalkforlife.org.

What is Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma?

Non-Hodgkin lymphoma (non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, NHL) is cancer that starts in lymphoid tissue (also called lymphatic tissue), part of the lymphatic system. The lymphatic system is important for filtering bacteria and cancer cells and carrying fluid from the limbs and internal organs back into the blood.

Lymphoid tissue contains lymphocytes, which are cells that fight infections. They also try to reject any foreign tissue that gets into the body, such as a transplanted organ. Lymphocytes are found in lymphoid organs (discussed below) and in the bone marrow.

Other types of cancer - lung or colon cancers, for example - can develop in other organs and then spread to lymphoid tissue. But these cancers that spread to the lymph nodes are not lymphomas. Lymphomas start from lymphocytes in either the lymphoid tissue or lymphoid organs and can spread from there.

There are 2 main types of lymphomas. Hodgkin's lymphoma (also known as Hodgkin lymphoma, Hodgkin disease, or Hodgkin's disease) is named after Dr. Thomas Hodgkin, who first described it as a new disease in 1832. All other types of lymphoma are called non-Hodgkin lymphomas.

These 2 types of lymphoma can usually be distinguished from each other by examining the cancerous tissue under a microscope. In some cases, more tests to identify specific chemical components of the lymphoma cells or tests of the cells' DNA may be needed.