

RAMAPO COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY

Office of Communications and Public Relations

Press Release

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EIGHTH ANNUAL RELAY FOR LIFE AT RAMAPO COLLEGE

More than 800 individuals will participate in fundraiser for American Cancer Society April 4-5

(MAHWAH, NJ)--- More than 800 individuals, including students, faculty, staff and others will participate in the 8th Annual Relay For Life at Ramapo College starting at 5 p.m. on Friday, April 4 until 6 a.m. on Saturday, April 5. Relay For Life celebrates the courage of those individuals who battled or continue to fight cancer and provides an opportunity to remember loved ones lost.

“Ramapo College is a consistent supporter of Relay For Life, and all participants play a key part in helping create a world with less cancer and more birthdays,” said Kaitlin Chieco, Relay For Life specialist with the American Cancer Society. “The students at Ramapo and their organizations are the backbone of this event, and we are so grateful for their efforts and for their commitment to fighting back against cancer not only at Relay but throughout the year.”

Relay For Life is a major fundraiser, coordinated by the American Cancer Society, Inc., to raise awareness of the disease and to assist those coping with the illness and family members. Relay For Life takes place nationwide in more than 5,200 communities on various weekends throughout the year. Relay For Life at Ramapo raised more than \$57,000 last year. The 24-hour celebration and remembrance takes place at the Bradley Center Arena on campus and features several key components and activities.

Team members walk or run laps, supported by donors who pledge a dollar amount for each completed lap. One member of each team is on the track throughout the duration of the event. Food, games and entertainment are part of the atmosphere in this family-friendly event.

Registration begins at 5 p.m. The opening ceremony is at 7 p.m. with cancer survivors walking the first lap followed by their caregivers. The fight back ceremony begins at 8 p.m. Participants commit to take an action to end cancer, such as quitting smoking or taking a screening test. The luminaria ceremony is at 10 p.m. and recalls loved ones lost to the disease. Participants carry candles with the name of a love one and walk a lap in silence. The closing ceremony begins at 5:30 a.m. on Saturday, April 5.

For more information, visit www.relayforlife.org/RamapoCollegeNJ or call 201-457-3418 ext. 2218.

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Ranked by U.S. News & World Report as sixth in the Best Regional Universities North category for public institutions, Ramapo College of New Jersey is sometimes mistaken for a private college. This is, in part, due to its unique interdisciplinary academic structure, its size of approximately 6,008 students and its pastoral setting in the foothills of the Ramapo Mountains on the New Jersey/New York border.

Established in 1969, Ramapo College offers bachelor's degrees in the arts, business, humanities, social sciences and the sciences, as well as in professional studies, which include nursing and social work. In addition, Ramapo College offers courses leading to teacher certification at the elementary and secondary levels. The College also offers seven graduate programs as well as articulated programs with Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, New York Chiropractic College, New York University College of Dentistry, SUNY State College of Optometry and New York College of Podiatric Medicine.

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The American Cancer Society is a global grassroots force of more than three million volunteers saving lives and fighting for every birthday threatened by every cancer in every community. As the largest voluntary health organization, the Society's efforts have contributed to a 20 percent decline in cancer death rates in the U.S. since 1991, and a 50 percent drop in smoking rates. Thanks in part to our progress nearly 14 million Americans who have had cancer and countless more who have avoided it will celebrate more birthdays this year. As we celebrate our 100th year of service, we're determined to finish the fight against cancer. We're finding cures as the nation's largest private, not-for-profit investor in cancer research, ensuring people facing cancer have the help they need and continuing the fight for access to quality health care, lifesaving screenings, clean air, and more. For more information, to get help, or to join the fight, call us anytime, day or night, at 1-800-227-2345 or visit www.cancer.org/fight.