“Burke Rehabilitation Center to Sponsor Team in the 2015 TCS New York City Marathon”

The money raised through the Marathon will benefit Burke’s Lower Limb Robotics Program, which helps those with stroke and brain injuries.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

White Plains, NY – October 21, 2015 – Burke Rehabilitation Center is pleased to announce that it will sponsor a team in the 45th annual TCS New York City Marathon on November 1, 2015. The money raised through the Marathon will benefit the lower limb robotics program at Burke Medical Research Institute (BMRI), Burke’s associated medical research center located on its White Plains campus.

The robotics program, which is conducted at BMRI’s Restorative Neurology Clinic, helps patients who have difficulty walking due to stroke or brain injury, as these conditions often cause paralysis or weakness on one side of the body. Robotic therapy offers repetitious movement, which is important for motor recovery after a neurological injury or illness. The lower extremity robots will help patients with targeted therapy to improve their gait, balance and overall endurance, further aiding in their recovery.

The 2015 Marathon team is made up of friends of Brad Berman, a Larchmont, NY resident and former Burke patient who experienced a stroke in 2013. Brad, a father of two and a marathon runner himself, was just 37 when he was rushed to the emergency room and underwent surgery for what was diagnosed as a massive hemorrhagic stroke.
The family learned later that Brad had an AVM (arteriovenous malformation), a congenital malformation of blood vessels, which had ruptured. Brad was in a coma for more than a month and once he woke up, had to re-learn how to walk and talk. After spending 4 months in the hospital, including time as an inpatient at Burke, Brad went home to be with his family. Today, he continues to receive outpatient care at Burke, where he regularly uses the robotic devices.

Brad and his wife, Jessica, started the *Train the Brain* movement, through which the funds will be raised. The organization works to raise awareness about brain injury, promote brain health through exercise, and raise money for research and treatment on brain repair.

“Burke has partnered with Brad and Jessica Berman through the Train the Brain movement, which was started after Brad suffered a stroke at an early age. Now, two years later, they continue to support Burke’s programs and services, including raising money for the lower limb robotics program,” said Richard Sgaglio, Ph.D., Senior Administrator of Marketing, Communications & Development at Burke. “The lower extremity robotics program has been a game-changing addition to the Restorative Neurology Clinic.”

If you are interested in supporting the team or would like to read more about and sponsor an individual runner, visit [www.burke.org/donate/NYCmarathon](http://www.burke.org/donate/NYCmarathon).
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About Burke Rehabilitation Hospital

Burke Rehabilitation Hospital is a private, not-for-profit, acute rehabilitation hospital. Founded in 1915, it is the only hospital in Westchester County dedicated solely to rehabilitation medicine. Burke offers both inpatient and outpatient programs for those who have experienced a disabling illness, traumatic injury or joint replacement surgery. The hospital is part of Burke Rehabilitation Center, which also includes Burke Medical Research Institute and Burke’s Outpatient Division.

Burke’s world-renowned doctors and therapists provide state-of-the-art treatment while its research scientists explore the frontiers of neurological and rehabilitation medicine. All share the Burke mission to ensure that every patient makes the fullest possible recovery from illness or injury regardless of their ability to pay. For additional information on Burke Rehabilitation Center, please visit burke.org.