



The Nation's Voice on Mental Illness

1981 Marcus Avenue Lake Success, NY 11042 (516-326-0797 www.namign.org)

Contact: Amy Lax
516-759-1082 amylax@optonline.net

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Photo Attached Caption below

STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY STUDENTS RECOGNIZED AS TOP FUNDRAISERS FOR MENTAL ILLNESS

Stony Brook, NY, July 25, 2012- Stony Brook University students were the first place winners of NAMIWalks' Long Island College Challenge Cup. Students from Stony Brook University's Occupational Therapy Program raised awareness about mental illness and \$3,263.00 to support the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Queens/Nassau and other local NAMI affiliates.

“As future occupational therapists, we have a holistic approach to health care. We recognize that mental health is not separate and apart, but integral to treating the whole person. Being involved with NAMI has helped us raise awareness about mental illness. We hope to continue challenging stigma and utilizing occupational therapy to benefit individuals in our community,” shared Stony Brook Occupational Therapy Team Captain Kaleigh Timmermann.

Stony Brook University had 75 walkers. Other schools that participated include Molloy College, Adelphi University, Nassau Community College, Queensboro Community College, Touro College, NYIT and SUNY Suffolk, Grant Campus.

NAMI is a nationwide, grassroots, non-profit organization dedicated to making a better life for all those affected by mental illness through support, education and advocacy. NAMIWalks is a national walk campaign to raise awareness about mental

illness and funds to support NAMI programs and services. For information about NAMI Queens/Nassau and NAMIWalks visit www.namign.org or 516-326-0707.

###

Photo: Left to right-Jessica Hammer, Stony Brook University Occupational Therapy, Class of 2014; Phyllis Fisher, Board Member, NAMI Central Suffolk; Kaleigh Timmerman, Stony Brook University Occupational Therapy, Class of 2012