Hundreds of Massachusetts Residents Join the Wellness Warriors in the Fight Against Cancer at “Crew for Cancer” Benefit

Sharon, Mass., November 13, 2009 – Hundreds of people came out on Saturday, November 7th to show their support for the Wellness Warriors, Massachusetts’ only dragon boat team for cancer survivors, as the organization hosted the “Crew for Cancer” benefit to raise proceeds for their team. Those in attendance included the current Miss Massachusetts, Amanda Kelly, as well as a number of employees from Charles River Apparel, a leading manufacturer of innovative active wear and official outfitter of the Wellness Warriors.

The Wellness Warriors is a paddling support group for men and women of all ages diagnosed with cancer. Their mission is to provide new opportunities for cancer survivors and caregivers to heal - both physically and emotionally - by being active participants in their own recovery and part of a mutually empowering dragon boat team. In addition, the group is working to raise awareness within the Boston survivor and medical professional community of the benefits of paddling for cancer recovery, wellness and a healthy lifestyle. They are accomplishing this through education, outreach and by being an inspirational presence of strong and confident cancer survivors.

“We are extremely grateful for the support we have received from the community and are honored that so many people decided to join us at the Crew for Cancer benefit,” said Sandra Tise, president of the Wellness Warriors. “Support groups are so important in the fight against cancer, as is education and awareness. We want to thank all of those who participated in this event to help the Wellness Warriors prepare for the 2010 season and to reach out to more cancer survivors in the Boston metropolitan community.”

Caption: Miss Massachusetts, Amanda Kelly, joins some of the supporters of the Wellness Warriors at the “Crew for Cancer” benefit on November 7, 2009.
Caption: The Wellness Warriors is Massachusetts' only dragon boat team for cancer survivors. Dragon boats, designed in ancient China, are the world's largest flat water racing canoes; paddlers move in unison to power a dragon boat, combining strength with teamwork.

The Crew for Cancer Benefit was held at the Community Rowing Harry Parker Boathouse on the banks of the Charles River in Brighton, Massachusetts. The event was sponsored by the Boston Dragon Boat Festival, Inc., Charles River Apparel, Community Rowing, Inc., Narragansett Brewing Company, Northeastern University Institute on Urban Health Research, P.F. Chang's China Bistro and Starbucks.

About The Wellness Warriors
Wellness Warriors, Inc. is a volunteer-directed, not-for-profit educational and support organization that offers cancer survivors and caregivers an introduction to dragon boat paddling with continuing recreational and competitive opportunities. This paddling support program is open to men and women of all ages and athletic ability. The team practices from May through August on the Charles River between Boston and Cambridge, Massachusetts. Its mission is to help cancer survivors and caregivers heal, both physically and emotionally, by being active participants in their own recovery and part of a mutually supportive team. For more information about the Wellness Warriors, visit www.wellnesswarriorsboston.org.

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For more information, contact:
SVM Public Relations
Jill Colna or Jordan Devita
401-490-9700
jill.colna@svmpr.com
jordan.devita@svmpr.com