FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Laura Farrell lfarrell@lymphaticnetwork.org



## 7<sup>th</sup> annual NY Walk to Fight Lymphedema & Lymphatic Diseases to be held at Brooklyn Bridge Hundreds will gather to make a difference for the millions who suffer from lymphedema and lymphatic diseases

**NEW YORK, NY – August 12, 2016** – On Saturday, September 17, hundreds of activists and fundraisers will come together at the base of the Brooklyn Bridge in Cadman Plaza Park to raise awareness and money for lymphedema and lymphatic disease education, research, and advocacy. Registration tables will be open at 9am. Water and snacks will be provided, and participants will have an opportunity to visit with companies who provide products and services to the lymphedema and lymphatic disease communities and listen to leaders in the field. The group will then complete their 5k round-trip across the Brooklyn Bridge.

"While up to 10 million Americans suffer from lymphedema and lymphatic diseases, these diseases have been under-recognized, under-diagnosed, and under-funded," said William Repicci, LE&RN's Executive Director. "But that is changing. This year, as a result of the urging of LE&RN and its supporters, the U.S. Senate established March 6 as the first *World Lymphedema Day*<sup>™</sup>. And June's California Walk brought out some of Hollywood's biggest names, led by LE&RN Spokesperson Kathy Bates. We are beginning to see these diseases come out of the shadows and get the attention they deserve."

"The hardest thing for a parent, family member, or friend is to watch a loved one in pain or suffering," said Jennifer Looby, LE&RN's New York State Chapter Chair and mom to a son with a rare lymphatic disorder. "I would give anything to make Connor's day brighter and ease his pain. I vowed to him that I would find a cure and this is why we fundraise. We are on a mission to research and destroy. We invite you to join us. Help make our voices and stories heard."

To register, join a team, form a team, support a team, or become a Virtual Walker, just visit LymphWalk.org. Registration is \$20 and each fully registered team member will receive a t-shirt and medal at the end of the Walk.

The Walk is generously sponsored by BSN medical (Premier Presenting Sponsor), Tactile Medical (Presenting Sponsor), BioCompression Systems, ImpedeMed/L-Dex, Juzo, Eiger BioPharmaceuticals, Mikimoto, Medi, LympheDivas, Lympha Press, Luna Medical, ShechterCare and Kashi.

## About LE&RN

Founded in 1998, the Lymphatic Education & Research Network (formerly LRF) is a 501(c)(3) not-for profit organization whose mission is to fight lymphatic disease and lymphedema through education, research and advocacy. LE&RN provides valuable education resources for the millions of people who suffer from lymphedema and lymphatic disease. LE&RN fosters and supports research that can deepen the medical community's understanding of the lymphatic system. For more information about lymphatic disease or the Lymphatic Education & Research Network, please visit <u>www.LymphaticNetwork.org</u> or call (516) 625-9675.