

Medtronic Announces 2010 "Global Heroes"

Distance Runners from Around the World Who Benefit from Medical Technology to Run this Fall in Medtronic Twin Cities Marathon Events

MINNEAPOLIS, Jun 22, 2010 (BUSINESS WIRE) --Twenty-five long-distance runners who benefit from medical technology have been selected as 2010 Global Heroes by Twin Cities In Motion, the non-profit organization that directs the Medtronic Twin Cities Marathon. The honorees hail from Canada, Chile, China, Finland, Italy, Serbia, South Africa, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, and the United States. Each Global Hero will run the Medtronic Twin Cities Marathon or Medtronic TC 10 Mile on Sunday, Oct. 3, 2010.

The Medtronic Global Heroes program celebrates the accomplishments of runners who have medical devices to treat conditions such as heart disease, diabetes, spinal disorders, chronic pain or neurological disorders, and whose continued passion for running serves as an inspiration to others. The program was launched in 2006.

"Once again, we are inspired by this year's remarkable class of runners and the global diversity of the honorees," said Stephen Oesterle, senior vice president of medicine and technology at Medtronic, Inc. (NYSE: MDT). "We look forward to bringing our 2010 Global Heroes to the Twin Cities this fall to demonstrate to the world how medical technology enables people to pursue personal goals and lead fuller, more active lives."

In addition to providing race entry and travel expenses, the Medtronic Foundation will donate \$1,000 on behalf of each runner to a non-profit patient organization that educates and supports people who live with the Global Hero's condition.

The 2010 Medtronic Global Heroes are:

Marathon Participants

Tina Bergstrom, Vora, Finland

Bergstrom has an insulin pump to manage diabetes.

Jill Braswell, Waco, Texas

Braswell has a pacemaker to treat an arrhythmia.

Nicola Combs, Norwich, United Kingdom

Combs has spinal therapies to treat scoliosis, a curvature of the spine.

Sean Erkonen, Sioux Falls, South Dakota

Erkonen has an amplatzer septal occluder to treat an abnormal opening between the left and right atria of the heart.

Dan Hochberg, Charlotte, North Carolina

Hochberg has a pacemaker to treat an arrhythmia.

Robin Laird, Perrysburg, Ohio

Laird has an implantable cardioverter defibrillator (ICD) to treat an arrhythmia.

Gregory LaMothe, Coppel, Texas

LaMothe has a heart valve replacement to facilitate blood flow to the heart.

Paul Langworthy, Fountain Hills, Arizona

Langworthy has an insulin pump to manage diabetes.

Tanya Plonske, Rogers, Minnesota

Plonske has a neurostimulator for bladder control.

Kathryn Poehling, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Poehling has an implantable cardioverter defibrillator (ICD) to treat an arrhythmia.

Ninoslav Raskove, Pancevo, Serbia

Raskove has an insulin pump to manage diabetes.

Francisco Manuel Rodriques, Cape Town, South Africa

Rodriques has a pacemaker to treat an arrhythmia.

Fabio Valgonio, Casto, Italy

Valgonio has an insulin pump to manage diabetes.

Ten Mile Participants

Kai Fischer, Geroldswil, Switzerland

Fischer has a pacemaker to treat an arrhythmia.

Erin Howe, Denver, Colorado

Howe has a heart valve replacement to facilitate blood flow to the heart.

Leslie Johnson, Prescott, Wisconsin

Johnson has a neurostimulator for bladder control.

Pablo Maillet, Santiago, Chile

Maillet has a pacemaker to treat an arrhythmia.

Maureen McCann, Austin, Texas

McCann has spinal therapies to treat scoliosis, a curvature of the spine.

Greg Prom, St. Anthony, Minnesota

Prom has a pacemaker to treat an arrhythmia.

Kelly Robinson, Seattle, Washington

Robinson has an implantable cardioverter defibrillator (ICD) to treat an arrhythmia.

Jeff Sanborn, Glyndon, Maryland

Sanborn has a pacemaker to treat an arrhythmia.

Chloe Steepe, Toronto, Canada

Steepe has an insulin pump to manage diabetes.

Marcella Teran, San Diego, California

Teran has spinal therapies to treat spondylolysis, a degeneration of the disc spaces between the vertebrae.

Jeremy Woodward, Concord, New Hampshire

Woodward has a heart valve replacement to facilitate blood flow to the heart.

Le Ting Zhang, Beijing, China

Zhang has an insulin pump to manage diabetes.

Additional information about the Medtronic Global Heroes program can be found at www.medtronic.com/globalheroes.

About Global Heroes

A cooperative effort between Twin Cities In Motion and the Medtronic Foundation, the Global Heroes program recognizes runners from around the world who have a medical device to treat conditions such as heart disease, diabetes, chronic pain and spinal and neurological disorders. All runners with medical devices are eligible with no restriction on manufacturer.

About Medtronic Twin Cities Marathon

Known as the Most Beautiful Urban Marathon in America(TM), the Medtronic Twin Cities Marathon is a three-day weekend celebration of fitness that includes the Medtronic TC Family Events and TC 5K, the Medtronic TC 10 Mile, and the marathon. Twin Cities In Motion is the non-profit organization that directs race weekend as a community service for the Minneapolis/St. Paul area. Visit www.mtcmarathon.org for more information.

About Medtronic

Medtronic, Inc. (www.medtronic.com), headquartered in Minneapolis, is the global leader in medical technology - alleviating pain, restoring health, and extending life for millions of people around the world.

Photos/Multimedia Gallery Available: <http://www.businesswire.com/cgi-bin/mmg.cgi?eid=6335203&lang=en>

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