



For Immediate Release
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Stony Brook Medicine Staff to be Honored at EPIC Long Island Gala

Long Island, New York, January 14, 2015 – The Long Island Comprehensive Epilepsy Center at Stony Brook Medicine is the recipient of EPIC Long Island’s Corporate Leadership Award. The award will be presented at the agency’s 31st Annual Dinner Gala on January 28, 2016 at Carlyle on the Green in Farmingdale. More than 200 guests are expected to the event, which includes a cocktail hour from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m., followed by a silent auction and evening reception. Proceeds from the gala will help to enhance vital programs and services for individuals with epilepsy, developmental disabilities and mental health challenges.

The [Center](#) will be honored for its efforts to continually improve the quality of life of patients with epilepsy. Many of its physicians are longtime supporters of EPIC Long Island and participants of the agency’s Annual Walk for Epilepsy. [Rebecca Spiegel](#), MD, MA, Associate Professor of Neurology and Director of EEG/Epilepsy at the Center, will be presented with EPIC Long Island’s Professional Leadership Award, which recognizes her work to implement a state-of-the-art epilepsy surgical program and clinical trials division.

“I’m very grateful to receive such an honor and excited to be part of an event that helps to raise awareness about epilepsy and the services that are available to the community,” Dr. Spiegel said.

Other honorees include the Messina family who have been active at EPIC Long Island for several years. John Anthony Messina currently serves on the agency’s Youth Council, inspiring other young people with his strength and courage while overcoming challenges of living with epilepsy.

During the gala, EPIC Long Island will also pay tribute to former Board member, Fred Abrams, who recently passed away after serving on the Board for nearly 50 years. Abrams cherished his involvement with the agency, stating in a recent newsletter article, “The reward of knowing you have helped someone else is immeasurable.”

Sponsors of this year’s event include Stony Brook Medicine, Columbia Care, Don and Grace Luneburg, Gibbons P.C., Bob and Lynn Karson, Moritt Hock & Hamroff LLP and TD Bank.

Commenting on EPIC Long Island's 31st Annual Dinner Gala, Tom Hopkins, President and CEO, EPIC Long Island, said, "We're thrilled to recognize the exemplary work of our 2016 award recipients in their efforts to transform epilepsy research and care. Many thanks to our sponsors and gala committee for helping to make this wonderful event possible."

To purchase tickets or to make a donation to EPIC Long Island, contact Eileen Coletti at 516-739-7733 x 626, or visit the event [website](#). Sponsorship opportunities are also available.

ABOUT EPIC LONG ISLAND

EPIC Long Island began in 1953 with a small group of parents whose mission was to help children with epilepsy lead productive lives. Over sixty years later, the organization has fulfilled that promise with 17 residences, two clinics, a wide range of programs that serve over 10,000 individuals annually. EPIC Long Island has broadened its mission to offer more social and health services across Long Island and has grown to serve not only individuals with epilepsy, but also those with developmental disabilities and mental health challenges. While epilepsy is at its core, the organization offers a spectrum of superior services for individuals and families with different needs. EPIC Long Island's mission is to enrich the lives of those they serve through quality care, a broad range of services and an unwavering commitment to excellence.

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