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**APRAXIA RESOURCE CENTER OF CONNECTICUT CONTINUES TO RAISE APRAXIA AWARENESS IN ANNUAL WALK-A-THON**

 ***Walk for Children with Apraxia of Speech–unlock our voices; open up our futures***

(DERBY, CONNECTICUT) – (April 24, 2013) –Wilton mother, Colleen McDermott, and Woodbridge mother, Michele Wasikowski, of the Apraxia Resource Center of Connecticut (ARCC) will honor their children with apraxia at the **Fourth Annual Connecticut** **Walk-A-Thon for Children with Apraxia of Speech** event to be held on Sunday, May 19, 2013 at Osbornedale State Park. To date, more than 300 participants have registered for the upcoming Walk that has raised over $17,000 and counting; all proceeds raised benefit important apraxia programs and research of the Childhood Apraxia of Speech Association of North America (CASANA) and the ARCC.

“The ARCC is pleased to organize and participate in the 4th Annual Connecticut Walk-A-Thon for Children with Apraxia of Speech. Many of our Connecticut families have leaned on CASANA and ARCC to provide education and support after hearing a diagnosis of apraxia for their child,” said Wasikowski, who is coordinating this Walk for her fourth year. Wasikowski’s 12-year-old son, Joey Wasikowski, was diagnosed with childhood apraxia of speech at 18 months old.

“Through this walk CASANA and ARCC are able to raise awareness and money to help continue to support and educate families in Connecticut and all over the world during their journey with apraxia.”

The **Fourth Annual Connecticut Walk-A-Thon for Children with Apraxia of Speech** is open to all adults and children. On-site registration and check-in begins at 9:00 AM, with the Walk starting promptly at 10:00 AM. Anyone interested in participating should contact Wasikowski at michelewaz@gmail.com OR visit the website at <http://secure.apraxia-kids.org/ctwalk> for more information, to register, or to make a donation.

Childhood Apraxia of Speech (CAS) is a very challenging and complicated neurological speech disorder in children. This little known disorder makes it difficult or impossible for children to accurately produce sounds, syllables, and/or words despite having a good understanding of language. The **Walk for Children with Apraxia of Speech** is held as a means to heighten awareness and to benefit important funding for CASANA programs and apraxia research.

**About CASANA**

The Childhood Apraxia of Speech Association of North America (CASANA), based in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and founded in 2000, is the only national 501(c)3 non-profit public charity exclusively dedicated to the needs and interests of children with apraxia of speech and their families. CASANA’s mission is to improve the systems of support in the lives of children with apraxia so that each child is afforded their best opportunity to develop speech. CASANA supports this mission by promoting awareness through Walks held all over North America; providing high quality information and support through the Apraxia-KIDS website and online communities; conducting multiple educational events; and funding apraxia research. For more information on CASANA and Childhood Apraxia of Speech, visit the Apraxia-KIDS website at <http://www.apraxia-kids.org>.

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