

PRESS RELEASE
For Immediate Release

CONTACT: Mary McKenna
Marketing Communications Coordinator
(516) 922-4100, ext. 204

16 September 2011

Hopes and Dreams Walk-a-Thon to Benefit Mill Neck *Get Walking for the ECC!*

A “Hopes and Dreams” Walk-a-Thon, benefiting the Mill Neck Manor Early Childhood Center (ECC), will be held on the Mill Neck Manor campus on Saturday, October 22. The rain or shine, 5K (3.1 miles) walk will begin at 8 am with registration and free breakfast by Atria Glen Cove. The walk, which begins at 9 am, will take participants through part of the beautiful 86-acre campus. Each walker will receive a free commemorative t-shirt and pin.

As the ECC is undergoing a much-needed “Restoring Hope, Building Dreams” renovation in order to maintain the exceptional early intervention services available for preschoolers with deficits in speech, language/communication, cognitive and gross and fine motor development and autism spectrum disorders, funds raised from the Walk-a-Thon will not only directly benefit the preschool, but will also be matched by the Mill Neck Manor Board of Trustees.

Beautiful fall weather is anticipated, but with that may come buggy visitors! Walkers are encouraged to bring insect repellent and to come prepared with sturdy walking shoes or sneakers. Participants are welcome to walk individually or with a team. Groups: why not add to the fun by creating team t-shirts? Whether walking solo or as a band of fundraisers, all are sure to have a blast while trekking the campus in honor of the ECC. And Mill Neck’s preschoolers and their families will truly appreciate your efforts!

Sponsorships, in the categories of *\$100 Flag*; *\$1,000 First Mile*, *\$1,000 Second Mile*, *\$1,000 Third Mile* and *\$2,500 Finish Line* are available. Pre-registration, by October 17, is preferred, but walk-ins are welcome. Sign-up forms and pledge and sponsorship sheets are available at <http://millneck.org/news/calendar/calendar.php>. For more information, to register or sponsor the event, please contact Michelle Yadoo at (516) 628-4231 or myadoo@millneck.org.

Founded in 1991, the Early Childhood Center provides early and intensive assistance to children, ages 3 and 4, who may have deficits in speech, language/communication, cognitive and gross

and fine motor development. The Center also provides full evaluations of preschool children suspected of having developmental delays. Most children who attend the program graduate and attend kindergarten in their home school districts. For more information about the Early Childhood Center, please call (516) 922-4100, ext. 276, or visit <http://www.millneck.org>.

Photo Caption:

Recent graduate Kayla Gallagher, a typical student in the on-campus integrated class, benefited from the ECC's versatile curriculum. Walk-a-Thon participants will help raise funds for a much-needed "Restoring Hope, Building Dreams" renovation in order to maintain the preschool's exceptional early intervention services.

###