

# MEDIA ALERT

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## 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Celebration of Champions® will be held on Saturday, May 12, 2018

### *Event Honors Children with Cancer and Benefits the Peckham Center for Cancer & Blood Disorders at Rady Children's Hospital-San Diego*

- WHO:** The La Playa Unit of Rady Children's Hospital Auxiliary: a group of 200 women dedicated to volunteering their time and resources to help raise funds for Rady Children's Hospital-San Diego.
- WHAT:** The 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Celebration of Champions® celebrating the heroic efforts of children with cancer, their families, and health care professionals; raising much needed funds for the Peckham Center for Cancer & Blood Disorders.
- WHEN:** Saturday, May 12, 2018 (9 a.m. to 2 p.m.)
- WHERE:** Embarcadero Marina Park North
- WHY:** Every year, the Celebration of Champions raises nearly \$500,000. To date, Celebration of Champions has raised over \$9 million for Rady Children's Hospital-San Diego.

More than 300 young champions who are currently fighting cancer or have survived cancer will be participating in this year's event. Each champion will run, walk, or be carried one-eighth of a mile holding the "torch of life" while being accompanied by a family member, sponsor, and celebrity. The champion will then pass the torch to another child for his/her symbolic run. The event also includes a memory lap by family members that honors those children who lost their battle with cancer.

- SCHEDULE:**
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| 9:40 a.m.  | The Sponsor Award Ceremony. The Naval Base Coronado Color Guard will perform followed by the National Anthem, sung by Arely Gomez (age 11). |
| 10:00 a.m. | Let the Relays Begin  |
| 12:00 p.m. | Circle of Life Ceremony, Lunch, Music provided by The Corvelles, and Champion's Carnival.   |
| 2 p.m.     | Conclusion of event.  |

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**About the Celebration of Champions®**

The Celebration of Champions was founded by the La Playa Unit of Rady Children's Hospital Auxiliary; the group consists of over 200 women dedicated to volunteering their time and resources to help raise funds for Rady Children's Hospital. To date, the La Playa Unit has raised over \$9 million. The Celebration of Champions® includes a relay for life, balloon release memorial, carnival and other activities designed to pay homage to the heroic efforts of the participating child champions and their families. The Celebration of Champions® is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) charity, EIN 33-0170626. For more information on the Celebration of Champions, visit <http://www.celebrationofchampions.com>.