



From: Hope For The Warriors™

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## Run For The Warriors™ Honors Wounded Service Members

**Long Island, NY**, November 23, 2009 - The Town of Babylon was filled with hope on Sunday, November 8, as 1300 participants ran, walked and rolled through the streets for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Run For The Warriors™. Fifteen wounded service members were among the participants. Close to \$100,000 was raised to benefit Hope For The Warriors™, a national nonprofit organization that assists wounded service members and their families and families of the fallen. “We are so grateful for the generosity of this community,” stated Robin Kelleher, President and CEO of Hope For The Warriors™. “It confirms to the wounded service members that our nation stands ready to support them as they continue on their road to recovery.”

Kicking off the race was a special opening ceremony that paid tribute to the military. U.S. Marines along with local Vietnam Veterans led the color guard while Road House Band presented the National Anthem. Suffolk County Executive Steve Levy addressed the crowd that was scattered with local government officials as well as representatives from the Governor’s office, all coming out to show their support for the service members. Members of the Nassau and Suffolk County Patriot Guard Riders were also in attendance.

Race Director Jack Caffey, Jr., praised the more than 300 volunteers who donated their time and energy and offered a special thank you to the Town of Babylon and The Local 338- RWDSU, who was the presenting sponsor of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Run. “This race would not have been possible without the phenomenal support of this community,” Caffey stated. “It was great to see so many people coming together to support these heroes so they know that what they have done for this country will never be forgotten.”

Participants in the 10K, 5K and one mile run/walk wore t-shirts designed by Samantha Kross, a West Babylon teen who was the winner of this year’s race t-shirt design contest. A heart-shaped flag wrapped in a yellow ribbon with the words Hope Beyond Recovery decorated each race shirt.

A pre-race dinner was held on Saturday night hosted by The American Legion Post 1120. Special guests included the wounded warriors, sponsors, event organizers, Bob Delaney, NBA Referee and Hope For The Warriors™ staff members.

To learn more about Hope For The Warriors™ and the programs they support, please visit their website at [www.hopeforthewarriors.org](http://www.hopeforthewarriors.org).

*Hope For The Warriors™ is a civilian organization, with 501(c)(3) non-profit status, is not a government agency and is solely supported by the generosity of individuals, corporations, and foundations in support and appreciation of those who have sacrificed in the name of freedom. Federal Tax Id#20-5182295. Hope For The Warriors™ is a recipient of the Combined Federal Campaign, CFC #27800.*

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