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### **Runners Raise Money for HeartShare**

(Brooklyn, NY)— It was a cold, windy morning, but that didn't stop runners from hitting the boardwalk for the 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Buckley's – Kennedy's 5K Charity Run. Held in Riis Park in Rockaway, Queens, nearly \$65,000 was raised to support the programs and services of HeartShare Human Services of New York.

With nearly 500 runners registered, this year's run was held in loving memory of Tom Killen and Theresa "Dee Dee" Muir, both loving, caring individuals who gave of themselves during their lives.

Following the run was a Family Fun Day Picnic for the runners, their families and friends, and those supporting HeartShare. Entertainment was provided by DJ Nikko, Yesterday And Today, and the O'Malley Irish Dance Academy. Children spent the afternoon playing games, jumping and sliding, and running in Pee Wee races.

Trophies were awarded to the fastest runners, both the overall man and woman and those in various age categories. The fastest runner overall man was Kevin D'Emic, with a time of 16 minutes 52 seconds, and the fastest woman was Diane Kenna, with a time of 19 minutes 12 seconds. There were two prizes awarded to the youths who raised the most money through sponsorships, an Xbox 360 and an iPod. This year, children from the Buckley and Strehle families combined their sponsorships for a total of \$1,415, more than any other runners, youth or adult. In the true spirit of generosity, they donated the iPod to one of HeartShare's clients.

"I would like to thank the sponsors who contributed to this year's run—Jim and Kathleen Buckley, the New York Times, Union Beer Distributors/Budweiser, RAM Abstract, Shamrock AC, Verizon, and DJ Nikko," said HeartShare President and CEO William Guarinello. "I am also grateful to the Buckley and Casey families, the staff of Buckley's and Kennedy's Restaurants, the families of Tom Killen and Dee Dee Muir, the runners, and the volunteers who helped to make this another successful run."

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Celebrating its 95<sup>th</sup> year, HeartShare is a nonprofit organization that assists more than 20,000 New Yorkers. Its wide array of services assist individuals with autism spectrum disorders and other developmental disabilities through numerous programs including education services, adult day programs, residential services, case management, recreation programs, family support services, and health services. It also provides counseling, after-school programs and assistance with foster care and adoption to children and families, supports people affected by HIV/AIDS, and administers energy assistance programs. For more information, visit [www.heartshare.org](http://www.heartshare.org).