

## **Charity Team heads to Chicago**

### *Team CdLS to run in Bank of America Chicago Marathon*

CHICAGO, IL (July 16, 2012) – Twelve dedicated runners are set to participate on Team CdLS in the famous Bank of America Chicago Marathon on October 7th. Team members are among an estimated 45,000 participants in the 26.2-mile run. The team's goal is to raise \$50,000 for the CdLS Foundation, based in Avon, CT.

Team CdLS has been active since the 2000 Chicago Marathon, when runner Frank Mairano of Collinsville, CT—the father of a child with CdLS—used the occasion to collect donations for the Foundation.

In addition to Mairano, Team CdLS members running in Chicago are Jeff Beaumont of Mt. Prospect, IL; Jill Kaufman of Plantation, FL; David B. Fowler of New York, NY ; Ava Frank of Sudbury, MA; Colleen Mcshane Meyer of Bayside WI and Jane Champion of Andover, MA.

Also, Sam Meyer of Bayside, WI; Greg Brown of Cincinnati, OH; David Ghabrial of Canton, CT; Beth Smisloff of Ballston Spa, NY; and Hamlet Tibbs of New York, NY.

Even if you are not running in the marathon, you can still come out and cheer on Team CdLS or make a donation to the CdLS Foundation. To make a donation, call the Foundation at 800-753-2357, or visit the website [www.CdLSusa.org](http://www.CdLSusa.org).

### **About CdLS:**

CdLS is a genetic syndrome that occurs in about 1 in 10,000 births. An estimated 20,000 people in the U.S. have CdLS but remain undiagnosed and/or without support services. Although individuals with CdLS range from mildly to severely affected, most have similar physical characteristics: small size, hands and feet; thin eyebrows that meet in the middle; long eyelashes; upturned nose; and thin, downturned lips. Some individuals have limb differences, including missing fingers or arms, and partial joining of the toes. Common medical problems include gastroesophageal reflux, bowel obstruction, hearing loss, and congenital heart defects.

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*Team CdLS, Bank of America Chicago Marathon, Cont.*

***About the Foundation:***

Founded in 1981, the Cornelia de Lange Syndrome Foundation is a family support organization that exists to ensure early and accurate diagnosis of CdLS, promote research into the causes and manifestations of the syndrome, and help people with diagnosis of CdLS make informed decisions throughout their lifetime. For more information, call 800 – 753 – 2357 or go to [www.cdlsusa.org](http://www.cdlsusa.org).

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