



## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

### ***AbilityFirst Stroll & Roll at Santa Anita Park raises critical funds for programs empowering people with disabilities***

**(Pasadena, CA - November 2, 2023)** AbilityFirst will hold its annual Stroll & Roll fundraiser presented by Comerica Bank on Saturday, November 11, 2023, at the Santa Anita Park in Arcadia, Ca. For nearly 40 years AbilityFirst has held a walk-related, family friendly community event supporting children and adults with developmental disabilities. The funds from this year's Stroll & Roll will be used to support AbilityFirst programs and services empowering more than 2,000 participants and their families in greater Los Angeles.

AbilityFirst's person-centered programs are grounded in individual choice, autonomy and community participation. They support individuals with autism, cerebral palsy, Down Syndrome and other developmental disabilities, to discover what is important to them in their lives and to develop the skills that are important for them to achieve their goals.

The Stroll & Roll will feature a welcome program emceed by NBC4 News Reporter, Mekahlo Medina, along with welcome remarks from the Stroll & Roll steering committee chair Willan Johnson and an inspiring story from an AbilityFirst participant Jesse Lopez. The walk/stroll/roll will take attendees through the Santa Anita Park and will end at the infield with an expo featuring more than 35 exhibitors and activities. Live performances from Straight Up Abilities, Christine Marie featuring Ice Bear, Crown City Drum Squad and the Pasadena Unified School District cheerleaders along with carnival games, food trucks and a beer garden sponsored by Golden Road Brewing.

**WHAT:** AbilityFirst Stroll & Roll raising critical funds for programs empowering children and adults with developmental disabilities in greater Los Angeles.

**WHO:** AbilityFirst participants and their families, corporate teams, volunteers and sponsors. Presented by Comerica Bank, along with platinum sponsor; Platinum Equity, silver sponsors; CHUBB, The Fletcher Jones Foundation, L.A. Care, NOVA, SC Fuels, SoCal Gas, VivoAquatics and bronze sponsors Bank of America,

Brentwood Originals, Cargill, Crimson IT, Del Real Foods, Longo Toyota-Lexus and Scalenorth, Inc. Media partner: NBC4 News reporter, Mekahlo Medina, master of ceremonies. Performances stage emcee, Hunter March (*Sugar Rush on Netflix, Nightly Pop on E!*)

**WHEN:** Saturday November 11, 2023, from 10AM-2PM. Parking lot opens at 9:30AM. Opening Ceremony starts at 10:30AM.

**WHERE:** Santa Anita Park, GATE 6, 285 West Huntington Drive, Arcadia CA 91007  
Infield Parking Lot opens at 9:30AM (off Colorado Place.)

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