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Patrick Kennedy to serve as Grand Marshall for the Worldwide Rally for Recovery! on September 21, 2013

Rhode Island Rally4Recovery is 2013 National Hub Event

(Washington, DC, December 13, 2012) – Patrick Kennedy will be the Grand Marshall for Rally for Recovery 2013, as tens of thousands of people speak out, march, run and walk on Saturday, September 21, 2013 during the 24th annual Recovery Month observances. From Rhode Island, the national hub for events taking place across the nation and around the world, to Pennsylvania and the United Kingdom, people in recovery, their families, friends and allies will put a face and a voice on recovery and call for improved policies so that others can get the help they need to recover. Rallies from 25 communities will be web-streamed live to locations around the world.

“We’re excited to have Patrick Kennedy, a former member of Congress from our State and champion for recovery, serve as the Grand Marshall at our National Hub Event for the 2013 Rally,” said Jim Gillen, Co-Chairman of the Rhode Island Rally4Recovery. “With the implementation of health reform, there will be new opportunities for people still struggling with addiction to join the over 20 million Americans who are in long-term recovery, benefiting themselves, their families and communities.”

“We thank everyone who’s standing up for recovery, offering hope and opportunity for people who still need help to recover,” said Dona Dmitrovic, chair of Faces & Voices of Recovery’s board of directors. Faces & Voices is the national organization coordinating **Rally for Recovery!** events during September, National Recovery Month.

Since its beginning in 2007, the annual **Rally for Recovery!** has grown from 30,000 participants to 100,000 in 2012. In 2013, **Rally for Recovery!** attendees will be encouraged to participate as individuals in our nation’s civic life through voter registration, educating community members about the opportunities for care under the Affordable Care Act, sharing why recovery is

important to them and their families; and celebrating their growing visibility. They will be joined by a vast array of elected officials, celebrities, public officials, law enforcement officers and other allies.

ABOUT RHODE ISLAND RALLY4RECOVERY

Entering its 11th year, Rally4Recovery has grown from a gathering of a few hundred people to a day-long celebration of recovery attracting over 6,000 people in 2012. A memorial luminaria procession closes out the event as part of the city-wide WaterFire celebration. The event helps build an attractive culture of recovery in Rhode Island, with the belief that everyone has a right to, and is capable of, recovery from addiction to drugs, alcohol and mental illness. A state-wide coalition, led by people in recovery, plans each year's rally and includes public and private sector treatment providers including the Rhode Island Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals. <http://rally4recovery.com/>

ABOUT FACES & VOICES OF RECOVERY

Faces & Voices of Recovery is the national organization of individuals and organizations joining together with a united voice to advocate for public action to deliver the power, possibility and proof of recovery from addiction to alcohol and other drugs. Since 2007 Faces & Voices has helped organized walks, rallies, picnics and other events at hundreds of locations across the nation and around the world under the umbrella **Rally for Recovery!** to support long-term recovery from addiction to alcohol and other drugs. www.facesandvoicesofrecovery.org

ABOUT RECOVERY MONTH

National Recovery Month is an annual observance during the month of September that is sponsored by the National Planning Partners in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's Center for Substance Abuse Treatment. A listing of events around the nation and the world can be found at www.recoverymonth.gov.