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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NATIONAL LYMPHEDEMA NETWORK ANNOUNCES 2016 LYMPHEDEMA AWARENESS DAY AWARDS

BERKELEY, CA - The National Lymphedema Network (NLN) is pleased to announce its 2016 Lymphedema Awareness Day Awardees as part of Lymphedema Awareness Month. On March 6th each year since 1994, the NLN has recognized those patients, caregivers, therapists, support group leaders, advocates, and medical professionals who have inspired and served the lymphedema community in exemplary ways.

On March 6, 1988, the NLN was founded with the mission of creating awareness of lymphedema through education and promoting and supporting the availability of quality medical treatment for all individuals at risk for or affected by lymphedema. In 1994, the NLN established its annual Lymphedema Awareness Day Award.

Over the course of 22 years, the NLN has honored more than 250 exceptional individuals who make a difference, from throughout the United States, Canada, and abroad. In addition, March 6th has been recognized as Lymphedema Awareness Day by state legislatures including California, Florida, Missouri, New York, and Virginia.

The 2016 Lymphedema Awareness Day Awards are given to:

Congressional Sponsors and Original Cosponsors of the Lymphedema Treatment Act:

- Representative David G. Reichert (R-WA-8), Sponsor of H.R. 1608
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- Senator Mark Steven Kirk (R-IL), Original Cosponsor of S.2373
- Senator Charles E. Schumer (D-NY), Original Cosponsor of S.2373

- Amanda Andrews, caregiver, Newark, OH
- Larry Ashmore, patient advocate, Tucker, GA
- Gloria Thenda Beckwith, inspirational patient, Jonesboro, GA
- Lisa Brown, exceptional patient, Boardman, OH
- Karen Beshai, inspirational patient, Mesa, CO
- Sarah M. Kaplan, MS, OTR/L, CLT, compassionate therapist, Waynesboro, VA
- Kimberly Ann Melton, inspirational patient, Mabank, TX
- Traci Spohn, Mon General Lymphedema Support Group, Morgantown, WV
- Huyen Lu Vitale, PT, CLT-LANA, caring therapist, Clermont, FL
- Joann Wilson, exceptional patient, Boardman, OH

March is Lymphedema Awareness Month, and March 6th is Lymphedema Awareness Day. For more information about lymphedema, contact the National Lymphedema Network at 1.800.541.3259 or visit our website at www.lymphnet.org. For information about the Lymphedema Treatment Act, visit www.LymphedemaTreatmentAct.org.

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*The NLN is a 501(c)(3)
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