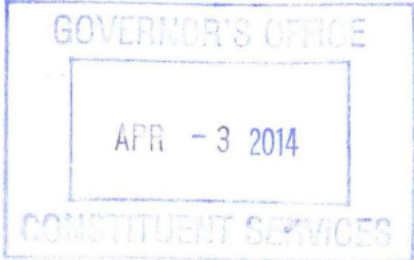


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Dear Deval Patrick:

First and foremost I want to thank you for your support for chronic Lyme disease. This is a rarity. Traditional doctors have a long way to go in understanding that words alone can be detrimental and abusive. I am hopeful that your support will spread, and that more government officials will support Lyme disease.

Of course my interest is of a personal one. Lyme has plagued my life. I lost my career as a mental health counselor providing services to children, teens and women three years ago; and this has been the biggest loss of my life. I provided outreach and this was my passion. I now have neurological Lyme. My symptoms run the gamut and include the inability to drive leaving me home alone all day, most days to cope with pain. My insurance has refused home care twice from my neurologist and I am completely isolated. Everyone works and I am jealous. People complain about work all the time and I get so angry because I loved my job. I always told my husband even if we won the lottery I would work. I love helping people. I have lost friends and family because of the controversy with this diagnosis.

Doctors have done a job on my psyche. I have been told I have a somatoform disorder, I have anxiety, this is all anxiety related, I am depressed. There is nothing wrong with me. I have a history of PTSD due to working outreach and was victimized three times. I recovered and was doing very well. The psychiatrist I had been working with told me to check into seeing a neurologist or to watch the documentary under our skin. However the traditional doctors never spoke with my psychiatrist and never verified with her she was concerned about Lyme or a neurological condition. They continued to blame it on anxiety. I was treated so poorly I began experiencing anxiety, a self-fulfilling prophecy. I have no trust in doctors now and am so hesitant to trust them. No one should be treated in such a degrading manner and with such disrespect. I asked to see an infectious disease doctor and was denied it is in my file.

I tested positive when I saw the ID doctor and got away from the doctors that were causing me so much anxiety and stress. I also tested positive on Igenix. They tested me with Elisa and said that it was negative. I have been to so many doctors all agreeing with the Primary it was in my

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head, which did not coincide with the expert, the psychiatrist who knew me and said it was neurological, or Lyme disease.

I know you have probably read letters like this over and over. The difference is I need to work, and I have a passion to do things. I can't stay still. I have worked 2-3 positions or 2 positions and attended graduate or advanced graduate school. I was a teenage mother. I am self-motivated I did kick boxing and worked out daily. I spent all my extra time with my daughter. We spend quality time: going to the beach, Disney, the Caribbean, walks and talking.

The point to all of this is we need more advocacy. I am involved in a Lyme support group called Kick the tick founded by Lois Pare. We are having a fundraiser May 17; to raise money for TBDA tick born disease alliance, a nonprofit organization that is researching better testing and a cure for Lyme disease. I am hoping to make it through this walk. I would like to request that you assist in this endeavor by supporting our group. I have enclosed the flyers and would love your support. The event includes the walk 5K \$25.00 per person, includes lunch, and a tee shirt. There are also options for donations or sponsorships. My ultimate wish would be for you to sponsor this walk. The sponsorship is your name on our tee shirts for \$100.00, a business card sized with logo for \$250 and I believe 16" for \$500. It's all enclosed for your convenience. I hope we can count on you for your support. I cannot imagine how busy you are and what I say to that is I am jealous.

I thank you from the bottom of my heart for listening and hearing my story. I wish you the best and God bless you.

With Gratitude,

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted address line 1]

[Redacted address line 2]

Kick the Tick



Lyme Disease Awareness and Support Group

Lois Pare' – Founder
16 Circle Drive, Granby, MA 01033

Please Support Our 2nd Annual BITE BACK FOR A CURE Walk

Saturday, May 17, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Our Savior Lutheran Church, 319 Granby Road, South Hadley, MA

Bite Back for a Cure is TBDA (Tick-Borne Disease Alliance)'s national campaign to raise awareness for Lyme and tick-borne diseases; and every spring, people throughout the country WALK for a cure.

On Saturday, May 17th, Kick the Tick Lyme Disease Awareness and Support Group will be hosting our own 2nd Annual ***Bite Back for a Cure*** Walk for TBDA. TBDA is a 501c3 non-profit national organization dedicated to raising awareness, supporting initiatives and promoting advocacy to find a cure for tick-borne diseases that affects so many of our friends and families. We encourage you to check TBDA's website: tbdalliance.org to better understand the disease, the devastation it causes and why we need to ***Bite Back for a Cure***.

Last year, our own **Kick the Tick Lyme Disease Awareness and Support Group** was able to raise \$7,600.00 for TBDA; and this year our goal is to double that amount. We will be walking in South Hadley again beginning and ending at Our Savior Lutheran Church at 319 Granby Road.

We would so appreciate your help! You may register to walk with us at <http://www.firstgiving.com/tbdalliance/2nd-annual-kick-the-tick-5k-walk> or, most helpful, SPONSOR our walk with a donation. Every walker will be wearing T-shirts with names and business logos of our sponsors. We truly hope YOUR name and/or logo will be among them. Below are the details concerning this year's sponsorship levels.

- \$500 – Your company's name and logo on back of event T-shirt -- 16 square inch size
- \$250 – Your company's name and logo on back of event T-shirt – business card size
- \$100 – Your company's name on back of event T-shirt
- \$25 – In memory or honor of someone on the sleeve of event T-shirt

Lyme disease can be devastatingly debilitating and even sometimes lead to death when undiagnosed and/or left untreated. It has reached epidemic proportions all over the world . . . **now exceeding cancer rates.** Unfortunately, there is no definitive test available for a proper diagnosis nor is there a universal treatment for those with long-term or late-stage Lyme disease. Some of you may already know someone who is suffering from Lyme disease, perhaps even within your own family. **Most definitely, there are too many suffering right here in our own communities.** Mention Lyme disease in conversation and people everywhere are quick to share their own experiences and frustrations in finding help and healing with Lyme.

I, myself, suffer from late-stage Lyme. I was bitten by a tick in 2005 and throughout the following year suffered many undiagnosed illnesses and hospitalizations. **(Lyme disease is a great imitator of many other diseases including MS, ALS, seizure and other neurological conditions, as well as arthritis).** I tried desperately to get my doctors to consider that I might have Lyme disease, but not recognizing that long-term Lyme disease exists, they dismissed my pleas. Sadly, medical professionals are seeing more and more patients with undiagnosed illnesses and symptoms that are Lyme related; but without proper testing and treatments, these patients are left to suffer on their own, desperately searching for answers and healing. Please help us raise the money to increase Lyme Awareness, and hopefully someday find a cure for the hundreds of thousands of Lyme sufferers out there. **Please consider sponsoring our Walk. With your help, we are one step closer to winning this battle against Lyme disease.**

I truly believe that my purpose at this time in my life is to raise awareness and help those who suffer from Lyme disease. Therefore, I am always willing to meet with you and/or offer a presentation on Lyme disease awareness to any group interested. If you would like more information, please feel free to contact me at kickthetick@yahoo.com or 413-467-9254.

With great appreciation for your time and consideration,

Sincerely,

[Redacted signature block containing multiple lines of blacked-out text]

Kick the Tick



Lyme Disease Awareness
and Support Group

Kick the Tick Lyme Awareness and Support Group

February 4, 2014

Donation form;

Company Name: _____

Address: _____

Website: _____

Contact Name Please Print: _____

Telephone number: _____

Amount of donation: _____

Make check payable to; ***Bite Back for a Cure or TBDA***

Send checks to 16 Circle Dr. Granby MA. 01033

Signature:

Do you have a logo or company name that you would like us to put on our t-shirts?

Yes (Donation for Logo's start at \$250.) For more information please call Lois or Ron at 413-467-9254

No

Please send logo in Jpeg format to: kickthetick@yahoo.com no later than April 16, 2014.

Kick the Tick

Lyme Awareness and Support Group

Copy

Come join the fun! Rain or Shine.

**Help raise awareness by participating in
a 5 K WALK through SOUTH HADLEY.**

Kick the Tick



Lyme Disease Awareness
and Support Group

Kick the Tick



Lyme Disease Awareness
and Support Group

For Preregistration and Donations go to

<http://www.firstgiving.com/tbdalliance/2nd-annual-kick-the-tick-5k-walk>

**Early registration fees are \$25 per person and \$70 per family of 5.
Participants who register by May 1 are guaranteed a free t-shirt.** Onsite
registration fees are \$35 per person and \$85 per family of 5. Children under 8 are
free.

**Come Learn more about Lyme Disease, its affects,
and how you can prevent it!**

**Walk followed by a light lunch and speakers on Lyme Disease
Educating people to prevent Lyme Disease**

**Proceeds from the walk to benefit
Bite Back **for a Cure**
TICK-BORNE DISEASE ALLIANCE (TBDA)**

When?

Kick the Tick



Lyme Disease Awareness
and Support Group

Saturday MAY 17, 2014. Rain or Shine

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

319 Granby Road, S. Hadley, MA.

Kick the Tick



Lyme Disease Awareness
and Support Group

Plan to be there at 9:00 a.m. to complete your registration.

The walk will begin at approximately 10:00 a.m.

**For more information and personal donations you can contact
Lois at; 413 467-9254 or kickthetick@yahoo.com**

*You walk at your own risk. TBDA is not responsible nor is
Kick the Tick Lyme Awareness and Support Group
responsible for accidents occurring on this walk.*