

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Stratford Native Kelly Fitzpatrick to SWIM Across the Sound in Memory of her Mother

Bridgeport, Connecticut – August 1, 2018. On Saturday, August 4th, 2018, Stratford native Kelly Fitzpatrick will SWIM Across the Sound with the Survivors – a six-person relay team that will take turns swimming 15.5 miles from Port Jefferson, New York, across Long Island Sound to Captain's Cove Seaport in Bridgeport – along with approximately 150 other swimmers and accompanied by a fleet of 100 boats. All are participating in St. Vincent's SWIM Across the Sound marathon to raise money for cancer patients. Net proceeds are used to help individuals and families who are battling the multi-faceted challenges of cancer.

Having participated in the SWIM in 2014, Kelly is so happy to be back this year for the second time. Kelly will be swimming alongside her sister, Courtney Fitzpatrick, in honor of their mother, who passed away earlier this year due to colon cancer. "Support from family and friends makes it easier to get through the days," recalls Fitzpatrick.

After swimming competitively for her entire life on recreational teams and on her high school varsity team, Kelly is excited to be back in the water not just for the exercise, but also for the memory that it brings. "My mother always pushed me and my sister to swim and encouraged us to keep doing it," said Fitzpatrick.

Being a part of a team of both cancer supporters and survivors, Kelly would describe her team as fighters, swimming out of respect and love for all of those battling with or who have battled with cancer.

As someone directly impacted by the tragedies cancer inflicts on a loved one and their family, Fitzpatrick has fond recollections of the St. Vincent's Medical Foundation being supportive and comforting during her family's time of need. "It is so important targeting families who are dealing with cancer," said Fitzpatrick. "A lot of support goes towards research. It is good to take a step back and focus on people in the moment."

Come and cheer on all the swimmers on Saturday, August 4th, 2018, at Captain's Cove in Bridgeport.

Help others like Kelly who are looking to support those affected by cancer by participating in SWIM Across the Sound. Donations can be made at <https://give.stvincents.org/marathon2018>.



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About St. Vincent's SWIM Across the Sound

St. Vincent's SWIM Across the Sound is a charitable not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization run by the St. Vincent's Medical Center Foundation of Bridgeport, CT. Since 1987, the SWIM has had a unique niche helping individuals and families struggling through the difficult changes that cancer brings with it. The SWIM serves approximately 30,000 people annually by providing over 45 programs, including cancer education, screening, prevention and support programs at low- or no-cost for the uninsured and underinsured. In addition, the SWIM helps individual cancer patients on a case-by-case basis with specific financial assistance, funding of wigs and prostheses, medication assistance, free transportation to treatments and appointments, day-care scholarships, support groups and more. For more information, contact the St. Vincent's Medical Center Foundation at (203) 576-5451 or visit www.SwimAcrossTheSound.org.