

For Immediate Release  
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**National Philanthropy Day Honoree, Thomas W. Lolio, Sr.**

The Make-A-Wish Foundation® of Rhode Island was pleased to honor longtime volunteer Thomas W. Lolio, Sr. on National Philanthropy Day for his tireless efforts in the field of fundraising and event planning all to benefit the Rhode Island Chapter. Tom holds a “Wish Walk” at Lincoln Woods each year, drawing hundreds of attendees and thousands of dollars that go directly to granting the wishes of Rhode Island children suffering from a life-threatening medical condition. This year, the Wish Walk raised over \$35,000 for the children! “We cannot even begin to express our gratitude to Tom for all that he does,” says Dr. Diana Hackney, President and CEO of the Rhode Island Chapter. “For months prior to the event, he works day and night planning the logistics of the walk, the picnic, and the many sponsors that he is able to generate through his hard work. He has a huge heart and the Foundation is privileged to have him as a volunteer.”

The Make-A-Wish Foundation® of Rhode Island is pleased to honor longtime volunteer Thomas W. Lolio, Sr. (known to most of you as "our Tom") at the National Philanthropy Day Luncheon on Tuesday, November 20<sup>th</sup> at the Rhode Island Convention Center.

Tom will be acknowledged for his tireless efforts in the field of fundraising and event planning to benefit the Rhode Island Chapter.

Tom's annual “Wish Walk” held at Lincoln Woods draws hundreds of attendees and thousands of dollars that go directly to granting the wishes of Rhode Island children suffering from a life-threatening medical condition. This year, the Wish Walk raised over \$35,000 for the children!

**Thank you, Tom, for your dedication, diligence and HUGE heart!**

*AFP-RI honors individuals and groups who, through their hard work and dedication, have enhanced philanthropy, their communities and the world. Over 100 individuals and groups are recognized as Partners in Philanthropy for their commitment to furthering the mission of non-profit organizations in Rhode Island through their significant generosity, outstanding leadership and exemplary volunteer contributions.*

*The Make-A-Wish® Rhode Island Chapter (est. 1991) grants the wishes (884 to date) of children with life-threatening medical conditions to enrich the human experience with hope, strength and joy. Celebrating its 16th year, the chapter received the National Chapter Performance Award for fiscal*

*year 2007 for first in revenue growth, fundraising, and wish granting effectiveness and referrals. Dr. Diana Hackney, President and CEO, was recipient of the YWCA Women of Achievement Award 2007, for her efforts to help improve the lives of children and youth.*

*Born in 1980 when a group of caring volunteers helped a young boy fulfill his dream of becoming a police officer, the Foundation is now the largest wish-granting charity in the world, with 67 chapters in the United States and its territories. With the help of generous donors and more than 25,000 volunteers, the Make-A-Wish Foundation grants a wish every 41 minutes and has granted more than 153,000 wishes in the U.S. since inception. For more information about the Make-A-Wish Foundation, visit [www.wish.org](http://www.wish.org) and discover how you can share the power of a wish®.*