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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ECSU Encourages WalkAmerica Participation

Willimantic—The March of Dimes is a not-for-profit organization that strives to raise awareness and promote research to save babies from the effects of prematurity, birth defects and other health problems affecting infants. Their biggest fundraiser — WalkAmerica— is now in its third decade and in that time has raised over \$1 billion to support cutting edge research programs aimed at alleviating such issues.

Eastern Connecticut State University (ECSU) invites students, faculty and staff, as well as the surrounding community, to take part in this year's March of Dimes WalkAmerica, taking place **on Sunday, April 27**. Walkers from all over the state will embark on their march from twelve different sites statewide. **In Willimantic, the walk will proceed from Windham High School. Registration begins at 9 a.m. and the march begins at 10 a.m.**

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Participants may choose to walk individually or as part of a team. Friends, family, associates, and others then make donations on the walker's behalf to the March of Dimes. The first 40 walkers to sign up as part of an ECSU team will receive an ECSU

Team t-shirt. A \$50 gift certificate for Angellino's will be given to the ECSU walker who raises the most money. Second prize for the most money collected is a \$35 gift certificate for Angellino's, and third prize is a \$25 gift certificate to be used at the ECSU bookstore.

Sponsorship forms are available by calling Sonya Kutschker at 465-5228.

For more information about the March of Dimes, please call 1-888-MODIMES or see the website at www.marchofdimes.com.

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