

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT:

Jennifer Dama, Life as a Zebra Foundation, 269-271-0761, jen@zebranation.org

LIFE AS A ZEBRA FOUNDATION TO MEET WITH CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS

LANSING, MI – On July 22-23, 2014, Life as a Zebra Foundation Co-Founders, Katie Dama Jaskolski and Allie Dama, will meet with congressional leaders in Washington, D.C. to discuss the prevalence of invisible illness in the United States.

Meetings have been scheduled with: Senator Debbie Stabenow (D-MI), Representative Mike Rogers (R-MI8), Representative Kerry Bentivolio (R-MI11), Representative Tim Walberg (R-MI7), and Representative Justin Amash (R-MI3).

This trip follows the success Life as a Zebra Foundation experienced after championing a resolution in the Michigan Senate declaring the week of May 25-31, 2014 as Invisible Illness Awareness Week. The Michigan Senate adopted the resolution unanimously on May 21, 2014.

“Invisible illnesses are so pervasive, yet so misunderstood,” said Katie Dama Jaskolski, President and Co-Founder of Life as a Zebra Foundation. “Our goal is to raise awareness of invisible illnesses among the general public and medical community and reduce the stigma that surrounds the illnesses. We are grateful for the opportunity to spotlight these issues on a national level.”

96% of people with chronic medical conditions live with a condition that is invisible. Invisible illnesses are chronic conditions that are not easily observed by the general public, and are often not readily seen by medical professionals. Invisible illnesses include lupus, fibromyalgia, interstitial cystitis, rheumatoid arthritis, vasculitis, Crohn’s disease, and Ehlers-Danlos syndrome, among others.

About Life as a Zebra Foundation

The Life as a Zebra Foundation was founded by two sisters, Katie Dama Jaskolski and Allie Dama. Dama Jaskolski has been diagnosed with Ehlers-Danlos syndrome (EDS) and postural orthostatic tachycardia syndrome (POTS). Dama was diagnosed with polyarteritis nodosa vasculitis (PAN). They started the Life as a Zebra Foundation after both women lived with debilitating symptoms while searching for correct medical diagnoses.

The primary purpose of the Life as a Zebra Foundation is to receive and administer funds for the purpose of education and charitable contributions for education, prevention, treatment, and research of various rare, hard to diagnose, invisible illnesses.

More information about invisible illnesses and the Life as a Zebra Foundation is available at ZebraNation.org.

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