Milton & Betty Katz JCC Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Jewish Community Campus



501 N. Jerome Avenue

Margate, NJ 08402 jccatlantic.org

Media Contact: Contact:

Melissa Vola, Special

Events Coordinator

(609) 822-1167 ext. 159

[mvola@jccatlantic.org](mailto:mvola@jccatlantic.org)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**Former Eagles’, 2018 NFL Man Of The Year, Chris Long, with Special Guest Host Michael Barkann to Speak at Katz JCC’s Sports Night**

MARGATE, NJ (June 25, 2019) – Philadelphia Eagles’ fans are in for a treat as recently-retired Eagles defensive lineman, Chris Long and sports host Michael Barkann join the Fifth Annual Jackie & Hank Herskowitz Sports Night fundraising event on Thursday, August 15 at 7pm at the Katz JCC, 501 N. Jerome Avenue in Margate, NJ.

“We’re honored to have this former NFL player and 2018 Walter Payton Man of the Year along with Michael Barkann to headline our event. The things that Chris has done off the field for others is truly amazing” said Jeff Herskowitz, Chairman of the Katz JCC Sports Night fundraising event.

Chris Long announced his retirement from football last month, ending an 11-year NFL playing career that included winning two Super Bowl titles and the Walter Payton Man of the Year Award. The 33-year-old son of Hall of Famer Howie Long had 70 career sacks and 15 forced fumbles in stints with the Rams, Patriots and Eagles. He won back-to-back championships with the Patriots (2017) and Eagles (2018). Long was selected last February as the league's Walter Payton Award recipient for his outstanding community service.

He established the Chris Long Foundation in 2015 to impact communities nationally and internationally through programs focusing on clean water, military appreciation, and youth education.

In 2017, Long donated his entire salary to support education in cities where he has played: St. Louis, Boston and Philadelphia.

This year, Long climbed Mount Kilimanjaro with other NFL players and U.S. military veterans for the fourth time to raise money to build clean water wells for East Africa.

He was the second overall pick in the 2008 draft by the Rams out of Virginia. Long spent his first eight seasons in St. Louis before signing with New England as a free agent in 2016. He played his final two seasons with Philadelphia after joining the Eagles as a free agent.

Michael Barkann, was the venerable day-one voice for NBC Sports Philadelphia and has been recently elevated to host of all pre and postgame shows in Philadelphia. Barkann now focuses on anchoring Sixers, Phillies and Flyers programming, in addition to his Eagles responsibilities. Throughout the nearly 21 years at the network, Barkann’s duties have included hosting “Philly Sports Talk” (formerly Daily News Live), specials – including championship parades, and of course, “Eagles Pregame Live” and “Eagles Postgame Live.” “Michael has changed the way Philadelphia sports fans watch and interact with their teams, making Eagles Postgame Live a must watch for all Eagles fans,” said NBC Sports Philadelphia President Brian Monihan.

Jackie and Hank, with their son Jeffrey, originally started this event in 2011. After Jackie and Hank’s passing in 2014, the event was renamed in their honor in recognition of the philanthropy they engaged in to help so many individuals. Their philanthropic legacy will continue with the Fifth Annual Jackie & Hank Herskowitz Sports Night fundraising event, which raises money for its scholarship fund to further its mission to provide the children and seniors of Atlantic County, as well as the community as a whole, programs and services that enhance and enrich their lives.

General Admission for Sports Night is one ticket for $225 or two tickets for $400 and includes dinner, open bar, and a silent and live auction. Ticket packages and sponsorship opportunities are available and include a VIP Meet and Greet with Chris Long during the reception.

For Sports Night sponsorship or ticket information, visit jccatlantic.org, call 609-822-1167 or email mvola@jccatlantic.org. For more information on the Milton & Betty Katz Jewish Community Center, visit [www.jccatlantic.org](http://www.jccatlantic.org).

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*The mission of the Milton & Betty Katz JCC of Atlantic County is to foster an appreciation of Jewish identity, values and culture, to promote health, education and welfare of our members, to strengthen Jewish family life, to build a sense of community and ensure Jewish continuity for our children, our children’s children and ourselves.*