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## **American Portfolios Continues its Support of World T.E.A.M. Sports by Participating in 2017's Adventure Team Challenge, Coastal Team Challenge and Upcoming Liberty Ride on Oct. 8**

HOLBROOK, N.Y. (Sept. 28, 2017) — American Portfolios Financial Services, Inc. (APFS), a privately-held, independent broker/dealer which provides services and support to financial advisors throughout the country, continues its long-standing support of the World T.E.A.M. Sports (WTS) mission through participation in two events this past summer and an upcoming one this fall on Oct. 8. Following the success of the annual Face of America (FOA) bike ride in April 2017, APFS participated in the non-profit organization's Adventure Team Challenge (ATC), an epic weekend of competitive team sporting events; and the Coastal Team Challenge (CTC), a 16-nautical-mile kayak journey that brought together teams of disabled and able-bodied athletes. AP will top the year off next month with FOA Liberty, a one-day bike ride suitable for all athletes, including those who are adaptive, which begins at the United States Military Academy at West Point, traveling south along the Hudson River to One World Trade Center in Manhattan; FOA Liberty honors military veterans who have been injured or disabled during their service.

An integral part of APFS' mission is to be a good corporate citizen in the communities in which it serves. Of the firm's ongoing commitment to Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), CEO Lon T. Dolber, who serves as the Vice Chairman of WTS, imparts, "I believe that a company has a responsibility to do good work by putting their resources and capital into the community. When I think of our proudest, most unified moments, it is those where our employees and affiliated colleagues have engaged outside of our business and work environment to aid in the betterment of the communities in which we live and thrive."

The WTS goal is a commendable one—to "change lives through sports." For more than 20 years, the organization has organized various athletic events in partnering disabled and abled-bodied men, women and children together in accomplishing physical challenges they never thought possible. APFS' relationship with the non-profit organization stems back to 2007 and has flourished ever since.

**2017 WTS ATC:** From June 8-9, APFS sponsored the WTS ATC, an inclusive challenge hosted by The Center for Discovery, a community of care located in Harris, N.Y., devoted to the health and well-being of people with disabilities. The outdoor sporting event provided developmentally-disabled teen athletes the opportunity to compete in several activities, including boating, orienteering, cycling and maneuvering through an obstacle course. During each stage, able-bodied coaches provided assistance so that each team successfully completed the challenge. Eight APFS employees and affiliated financial professionals, including financial advisor and member of the American Portfolios Advisor Council (APAC) Gus Catanzaro of PPS Advisors, Inc., participated alongside athletes with disabilities to complete each stage of



the multi-sport event. “Being a part of the 2017 ATC was an absolutely amazing and moving experience,” Catanzaro reflects. “I wasn’t sure what to expect leading up to the event, but it proved to be more than what I anticipated. I quickly embraced the camaraderie of the group as we faced each challenge side-by-side. Participating directly in an event like this—with the athletes, their parents and all team staff—made me realize that despite the varying disabilities of each athlete, we aren’t any different as human beings.”

**2017 WTS CTC:** APFS and WTS collaborated again from Aug. 1– 2, 2017, for the non-competitive CTC, which is designed to emphasize the power and inspiration of teamwork to overcome and help eliminate the barriers for disabled athletes and inspire those who are able-bodied. Five APFS staff members and affiliated colleagues took part in the event. Each able-bodied athlete was matched with athletes with disabilities from WTS partner Independent Group Home Living (IGHL), a not-for-profit agency that is dedicated to enriching the lives of people with intellectual disabilities. The two-day challenge began at Long Island’s Patchogue Beach Club, with stops at the Bellport Yacht Club and Smith Point County Park, before concluding in East Moriches. The teams of two-person kayaks successfully completed the 16-nautical-mile journey that involved paddling by hand along Long Island’s South Shore. During the post-CTC reception and award ceremony, which was attended by the athletes as well as their family members and friends, Dolber helped hand out achievement medals to the proud participants.

**2017 WTS FOA LIBERTY:** APFS is looking forward to taking part in the next WTS event, FOA Liberty, on Sunday, Oct. 8. What began in October 2015 as a trial event with 30 athletes and supporting crew proved to be an enjoyable and doable ride along this Hudson River route, and worthy of including as one of WTS’ flagship events. Twelve members of Team American Portfolios will be participating this year. For more information, click [here](#).

### **About American Portfolios**

Headquartered in Holbrook, N.Y., American Portfolios Financial Services, Inc. (APFS) is a full-service, independent broker/dealer and member firm of FINRA and SIPC, offering a complete range of financial services, including personal financial and retirement planning, securities trading, mutual funds, access to investment research, long-term care planning, insurance products and tax-free investing. Fee-based asset management is offered through its sister subsidiary, American Portfolios Advisors, Inc., (APA), an SEC Registered Investment Advisor. Both entities, along with technology entity American Portfolios Advisory Solutions, LLC, collectively reside under the legal entity American Portfolios Holdings, Inc. (APH). Full-service securities brokerage is available through a clearing firm relationship with Pershing, LLC, a BNY Mellon firm, the securities of which are held on a fully disclosed basis. The company currently serves 797 independent investment professionals located in 364 branch locations throughout the nation. It was named Broker-Dealer of the Year\* (Division III) by *Investment Advisor* magazine in 2015, 2016 and 2017, as well as one of the top five Best Small/Mid-Size



Company to Work for in the state of New York for 2016 and 2017 by the New York State Society for Human Resources Management (NYS-SHRM) and the Best Companies Group (BCG).

*\*Based on a poll of registered representatives conducted by Investment Advisor magazine. Broker/dealers rated highest by their representatives are awarded "Broker/Dealer (B/D) of the Year."*

### **About World T.E.A.M. Sports**

World T.E.A.M. Sports (WTS) is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization chartered in North Carolina and headquartered in Holbrook, N.Y. Since 1987, WTS has organized athletic events for disabled and able-bodied citizens—mountain climbing, white water rafting, bicycling and more. Their mission is to change life through sports. WTS uses athletics to challenge people to accomplish goals they once deemed impossible. Through every WTS event, participants with disabilities build their self-confidence and enhance their physical fitness. During athletic challenges, disabled and able-bodied participants learn to work together as a team to overcome physical, emotional and technical challenges. Annual WTS events include: Adventure Team Challenge, Coastal Team Challenge, CanAm Veterans' Challenge, Face of America and Sea to Shining Sea.

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