



Strides for Peace

207 East Ohio Street, #437
Chicago, IL 60611



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Mary Stonor Saunders, Executive Director
773-326-5368 mary@stridesforpeace.org

6th Annual RACE AGAINST GUN VIOLENCE

Opens for Early Registration

Drawing Diverse Stakeholders and Partners from Across Chicagoland

CHICAGO, IL November 29, 2018 -- Early registration has opened for Strides for Peace's 6th Annual **Race Against Gun Violence (RAGV)**, to take place in Grant Park's Upper Hutchinson Field the evening of June 6, 2019.

In the backdrop of recent gun violence that has shaken our city, the Race Against Gun Violence celebrates hope: a one-of-a-kind opportunity for people and organizations in Chicagoland to come together to take a stand against gun violence and celebrate the life-changing work happening throughout Chicago every day.

The RAGV brings diverse stakeholders together to raise funds for and awareness of what is being done to end gun violence and strengthen Chicago's future. Last year more than 50 nonprofit and civic organizations, and residents from over 175 zip codes took part. **36% of attendees came from Chicago's wealthiest neighborhoods, 34% from the poorest.** Strides for Peace made possible for 42 non-profits, representing diverse communities and approaches to create safer Chicago, to use the race for fundraising, team-building, civic engagement and volunteer recruitment. All nonprofit partners receive 100% of donations from the RAGV.

Central to the RAGV is the goal to build capacity and promote collaboration. "We believe everyone has a stake in ending gun violence and that by working together, we not only change can narrative of our city - we save lives," stated Mary Stonor Saunders, Executive Director.

To that end, the RAGV convenes like-minded non-profit, academic, and civic organizations who are committed to reducing gun violence and fostering collaboration. 2019 Civic Partners and Host Committee members include: **World Business Chicago (Andrea Zopp), Wu-Tang Foundation (Tareef Michael), Chicago CRED (Arne Duncan), the UChicago Crime Lab (Roseanna Ander) and Negaunee Music Institute of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra (Jonathan McCormick)**, with more expected to be announced soon.

The Race Against Gun Violence offers USTAF Certified 8k and 5k races along the lakefront, a 2-mile walk and a Tots for Peace Sprint. With opportunities for all ages and fitness levels to participate, the event makes for a family-friendly evening to celebrate the life-changing work of participating nonprofits, and provides a platform for people who care about reducing gun violence in Chicago to connect and get involved.

About Strides for Peace: Founded in 2014 by Margaret Bazckowski, Strides for Peace is a registered 501(c)3 which envisions a Chicago where all can thrive and live free of the fear of gun violence. Our mission is to increase the collective impact of community organizations working to end gun violence, save lives and build a stronger Chicago.

Connect. Commit. Contribute. Change. Be part of Build peace.

Website: stridesforpeace.org

Facebook: facebook.com/stridesforpeace/