



Presented by  MAYO CLINIC HEALTH SYSTEM



FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Joy Leafblad, Sports Commission Director
3 Civic Center Plaza, Suite 100
Mankato, MN 56001
507-385-6663
jleafblad@visitmankatomn.com

December 3, 2019
For Immediate Release

MANKATO MARATHON ANNOUNCES 2020 CHARITIES PROGRAM BENEFACTORS

MANKATO, Minn.— Registration for the 2020 Mankato Marathon opened Sunday, December 1. Participants have until the end of the year to save money by registering at last year's opening rates. As of January 1, prices increase.

This year, the Mankato Marathon, presented by Mayo Clinic Health System, is excited to have the following five charities take part in its 2020 Charities Program: Mankato Youth Place (MY Place), Committee Against Domestic Abuse (CADA), Leisure Education for Exceptional People (LEEP), Mankato Family YMCA – STRIDE, and MRCI.

"MY Place" Mankato Youth Place, formally known as Boys & Girls Club of Mankato, provides youth with programs to support success in school, a healthy lifestyle and character and leadership skills to prepare them to become contributing community members. The mission of Boys & Girls Club will continue on with MY Place to empower all young people, especially those who need us most, to realize their full potential as productive, responsible, and caring community members by providing every child access to a safe, nurturing, educational environment that positively impacts their lives.

Committee Against Domestic Abuse (CADA) provides safety and support to victims of domestic and sexual violence through education, advocacy, and shelter. CADA has been serving individuals and families throughout the region for 40 years and provides 24-hour advocacy and supportive services in the shelter as well as through community-based victim service programs serving Blue Earth, Nicollet, Brown, Waseca, Watonwan, Faribault, Le Sueur and Sibley counties.

-MORE-

Leisure Education for Exceptional People (LEEP) enriches the lives of hundreds of individuals ages 8 years of age and older with developmental and intellectual disabilities through inclusive recreation, sporting, and healthy living opportunities.

Mankato Family YMCA – STRIDE is a character-building fitness and running program where boys in grades 3-8 have a chance to share their thoughts and opinions about various life topics. They provide a safe and encouraging environment that caters toward positive character development, while building running endurance to complete a season end 5K.

MRCI has focused on the rehabilitation of adults by providing innovative employment programs that assist individuals in their achievement of personal goals. By focusing on the people they serve through programs and individualized planning, MRCI has continued to operate as a true leader in the field of adult rehabilitation. MRCI is a new charity for 2020.

Each program will choose four Champion Runners who will raise money for his or her respective charity. In addition to its Champion Runners, the five charities have the potential to raise additional dollars through race registrations. Runners will be able to donate to any or all the charities when they register for any Mankato Marathon race.

In 2013, the Mankato Marathon started the Charities Program as a way to give back to the community that has generously supported its races. The program is meant to be a platform for the five charities to fundraise for its cause. In 2019, the Charities Program helped selected charities raise nearly \$25,000.

To learn more about the 2020 Mankato Marathon Charities, visit <http://mankatomarathon.com/charities/>. For more information about the Mankato Marathon Charities Program, contact Joelle Baumann at jbaumann@visitmankatomn.com or 507-385-6679.

For more information about the Mankato Marathon, visit mankatomarathon.com.

About The 2020 Mankato Marathon:

On October 16-17, 2020, Visit Mankato will host the 11th annual Mankato Marathon. This accredited race is a qualifying event for the prestigious Boston Marathon and is projected to have an attendance of over 4200 runners. The event will continually grow to have significant economic impact in the community and already has incredible local sponsorship, with Mayo Clinic Health System leading a long list of area businesses. There are many ways to get involved as a business, runner, volunteer or spectator. For more information on the 2020 Mankato Marathon visit mankatomarathon.com or call 507-385-6660.

About Visit Mankato:

Visit Mankato, the local convention and visitor's bureau, is a business unit of Greater Mankato Growth, Inc. (GMG), which also includes the regional chamber of commerce and economic development organization, Greater Mankato Growth, the downtown development organization, City

Center Partnership, and GreenSeam, which utilizes agriculture to build on the region's extensive agribusiness assets to develop the ag economy. Visit Mankato leads the development of the visitor economy in Greater Mankato by actively promoting Greater Mankato as a premier destination for conventions, tournaments and tourism. These activities bring a steady flow of visitors and business activity to Greater Mankato that benefits local residents and future visitors. The work of Visit Mankato helps strengthen the hospitality industry which provides jobs, a diverse tax base and amenities for everyone to enjoy.