



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **67 Team M3~Chicago Student MentorRun Students and Mentors Complete 2008 Bank of America Chicago Marathon**

Chicago, IL, October 13<sup>th</sup> 2008 – The MGR Foundation is proud to announce that all 32 Chicago Public School students and 35 adult mentors of Team M3 safely and successfully completed the 2008 Bank of America Chicago Marathon.

These amazing students are members of TeamM3~Chicago Student MentorRun, a team of Chicago Public high school students turned marathon runners through six months of training and support from adult mentors. Despite the intense heat, all 32 students from Carver Military Academy, Foreman High School and North Grand High School, accomplished an incredible goal that less than 1% of the population will ever realize.

Students completed the 26.2 mile race ending a journey that began with a simple 5K run on May 3<sup>rd</sup> 2008. By August, 10<sup>th</sup> 2008, all 110 Team M3 members, including 68 students and 42 mentors completed the Chicago Distance Classic presented by Bank of America.

During the marathon, the future of Team M3 cheered enthusiastically from the sidelines. There were over 150 Chicago Public School students from 7 different high schools, including Team M3 students who completed the Chicago Distance Classic half marathon, working together to encourage and support their peers.

Through the support of organizations such as Nike, Inc., CPS, Omicron Technologies and others, the MGR Foundation seeks to grow Team M3 to reach 15 Chicago Public high schools during the 2009 season. The Department of Justice has also recently awarded the MGR Foundation a grant to expand Team M3~Chicago Student MentorRun to include a peer mentorship component at Foreman High School, a replicable gang violence prevention model to eventually be implemented at additional schools.

*I am most proud of myself for running the marathon and finishing it. This experience changed me physically and emotionally because I lost a lot of weight and I got to believe in myself more and more.*

~Maricela R, Team M3 Student Runner

*I never thought I could run a marathon and I'm proud of myself. Now I don't care what people say about me, they might say I can't do things but now I know I can prove them wrong.*

~Claudia G, Team M3 Student Runner

*I loved the program! It showed me to never give up! It was a life-changing experience.*

~America G, Team M3 Student Runner

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The MGR Foundation is a publicly supported 501(c)3 organization.  
The MGR (Marilyn G. Rabb) Foundation is committed to overcoming social and economic barriers and creating innovative programs that positively impact our communities.

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For more information about Team M3~Chicago Student MentorRun: [m3.mgrf.org](http://m3.mgrf.org)  
For more information about the MGR Foundation: [mgrf.org](http://mgrf.org)