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GRANDMA'S MARATHON ENJOYS RECORD REGISTRATION NUMBERS ON 2024 OPENING DAY

Close to 10,000 Participants Signed Up on October 1

(DULUTH, MINN.) --- Close to 10,000 people signed up for the 2024 Grandma's Marathon weekend in the opening five hours, making it the organization's largest-ever first day of registration.

"Each year on October 1, we're humbled by how much people care about our race and our community," Marketing & Public Relations Director Zach Schneider said, "but this year especially it's been so wonderful to see the thousands of people who want to be here with us in June."

9,450 people registered for the 2024 race weekend on October 1 between 7:00 p.m. and midnight, which is nearly 4,000 more than last year's total. With last year being the second-fastest sellout in the organization's history, hopes are high moving forward that this may be another banner year for Grandma's Marathon.

"It's always an exciting day and focuses our minds a lot on what needs to happen between now and June," Schneider said, "but we do always stop to take a moment and consider how fortunate we are that this many people want to come to Duluth and be part of this. It's special on so many levels."

With the already strong start to registration, organizers do recommend people sign up soon if they want to participate in next year's races, especially the always popular Garry Bjorklund Half Marathon. That event has a capacity of 8,000 and as of early morning on October 2 had already surpassed 6,000 registered participants for 2024.

The 2024 Grandma's Marathon weekend will be held June 20-22, 2024.

For any questions or interview requests, please contact Marketing & Public Relations Director Zach Schneider via phone at (218) 343-9874 or via email at zach@grandmasmarathon.com.



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ABOUT GRANDMA'S MARATHON

Grandma's Marathon began in 1977 when a group of local runners planned a scenic road race from Two Harbors to Duluth, Minnesota. After seeing just 150 participants that year, the race weekend has now grown into one of the largest in the United States and welcomes more than 20,000 participants for its three-race event each June.

The race got its name from the Duluth-based group of famous Grandma's Restaurants, the first major sponsor of the marathon. In addition to the 26.2-mile race, the organization has now added the Garry Bjorklund Half Marathon and William A. Irvin 5K to its weekend offerings.

As the popularity of Grandma's Marathon has grown, our mission has stayed the same – to organize, promote, and deliver annual events and programs that cultivate running, educational, social, and charitable opportunities to our communities.

Grandma's Marathon-Duluth, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit organization with a nine-person, full-time staff and a 17-member Board of Directors.



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