



2026 CHARITY PARTNER PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Please Keep Overview & Timeline For Your Records

PURPOSE

At Grandma's Marathon, we believe in the power of transformation. It begins the day you register and grows every morning you lace up those shoes and step out the door. Our Charity Partner Program encourages runners to share that life-changing experience by making a difference in someone's life as they transform their own. Non-profits selected to become Official Charity Partners have the opportunity to raise awareness as well as vital funding for their causes by offering guaranteed entries into Grandma's Marathon race weekend events.

FUNDRAISING PLATFORM

Grandma's Marathon has partnered with Race Roster to provide a fundraising platform for the Charity Partners Program. This platform is available to all Charity Partners as an optional means for collecting donations and recruiting runners via a customizable account page. If your organization uses Race Roster as its fundraising platform, your runners will have access to their own personal fundraising pages where they can designate funds raised to go to your charity. Race Roster will distribute collected funds to Charity Partners on a weekly basis.

Charities may use their own platform for fundraising but must submit fundraising totals following the event to Grandma's Marathon.

CHARITY PARTNER ELIGIBILITY AND REQUIREMENTS

- Charity must be a registered 501(c) (3) non-profit organization.
- Charity commits to pre-purchasing a minimum of (5) race entries of any combination.
- Charity agrees to provide Grandma's Marathon with its logo, a description of the charity, its mission, its runner fundraising guidelines and minimums, and the URL for its fundraising platform (if not using Race Roster) prior to September 15 2025. This information will be posted on the Grandma's Marathon website.
- Charity will maintain regular and frequent communication with its current runners and potential runners regarding fundraising guidelines and deadlines. Runner instructions must note that all charity runners are required to officially register for the marathon, half marathon, or 5K by following the provided charity registration instructions and correctly using the charity code by 11:59 p.m. CDT on May 6, 2026. No exceptions.
- Charity is responsible for submitting a report to Grandma's Marathon regarding its total of funds raised through the program by July 10, 2026.
- Charity must review the 2026 timeline chart and agree to meet all deadlines.

GRANDMA'S MARATHON CHARITY LEVELS & BENEFITS

Charities must commit to a level during the application process. Each charity then has the flexibility to choose how many bibs it would like within the level guidelines and the number of bibs for each race it would like to purchase. Charities that would like to upgrade levels from the initial commitment will only be allowed to do so based on availability of bibs. Charities with additional interest should reach out to Program Director Alivia Nelson via email at alivia@grandmasmarathon.com as soon as possible.

**With popularity surrounding the 50th annual Grandma's Marathon, we do not anticipate having additional bibs available for charities above their initial commitment.*

LEVEL	TOTAL BIBS	BENEFITS	PROGRAM FEE
LAKE SUPERIOR	51-100*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Premium/Corner Booth at Essentia Health Fitness Expo (\$850 VALUE) Virtual Race Packet Ad (\$600 VALUE) Friday Night Meet Up Space at the DECC Bleacher Passes (2 PER RUNNER – \$20 VALUE) Charity Partner Website listing with logo & subpage Access to Charity Cheer Zone <p><i>*If your charity anticipates needing more than 100 bibs, please reach out to alivia@grandmasmarathon.com as soon as possible.</i></p>	\$1,000
LIFT BRIDGE	31-50	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Standard Booth at Essentia Health Fitness Expo (\$650 VALUE) Virtual Race Packet Ad (\$600 VALUE) Friday Night Meet Up Space at the DECC Bleacher Passes (2 PER RUNNER – \$20 VALUE) Charity Partner Website listing with logo & subpage Access to Charity Cheer Zone 	\$750
LIGHTHOUSE	16-30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Virtual Race Packet Ad (\$600 VALUE) Friday Night Meet Up Space at the DECC Bleacher Passes (2 PER RUNNER – \$20 VALUE) Charity Partner Website listing with logo & subpage Access to Charity Cheer Zone 	\$500
LAKEWALK	5-15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Friday Night Meet Up Space at the DECC Bleacher Passes (2 PER RUNNER – \$20 VALUE) Charity Partner Website listing with logo & subpage Access to Charity Cheer Zone 	\$300

CHARITY BIB PRICING

Charity Partners are able to pre-purchase guaranteed race entries at the lowest registration rate offered. A minimum of (5) race entries must be pre-purchased (combination of 5K, half, or full). Michelina's All-You-Can-Eat Spaghetti Dinner tickets are also available for pre-purchase. *All purchases are final.*

GENERAL REGISTRATION FEES

Grandma's Marathon – \$140

Garry Bjorklund Half Marathon – \$130

William A. Irvin 5K – \$50

MARKETING AND PROMOTION

- All charities are provided with a page on the Grandma's Marathon website to highlight their mission, fundraising minimums, and additional incentives.
- Each charity is responsible for its own marketing and promotion to recruit runners.
- Grandma's Marathon will promote the Charity Runner Program as a whole and will give charities opportunities to be spotlighted as they arise.
- After event sell outs all charities will be promoted via email, social media, etc.

CHARITY RUNNER INCENTIVES

Charities are encouraged to provide additional incentives to runners who raise above and beyond their fundraising minimum. Grandma's Marathon will provide the following incentives to runners who hit these fundraising levels:

FUNDRAISING	INCENTIVES
\$1,000 Fundraisers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 Free Tickets to Michelina's Spaghetti Dinner
\$1,200 Fundraisers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 Free Tickets to Michelina's Spaghetti Dinner• \$50 Credit to Grandma's Marathon Store
\$1,500 Fundraiser	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 Free Tickets to Michelina's Spaghetti Dinner• \$50 Credit to Grandma's Marathon Store• 2 Passes to Grandma's Marathon VIP Tent at Finish Line on Saturday

Charities with runners meeting this threshold should reach out to Program Director Alivia Nelson via email at alivia@grandmasmarathon.com on a rolling basis but no later than June 1, 2026.

CHARITY RUNNER REGISTRATION

Charities receive a designated registration code and instructions to distribute to its runners. Charity runners must use the code provided and register via Race Roster by May 6, 2026 in order to officially participate in Grandma's Marathon race weekend.

PLEASE NOTE FOR RUNNERS: *Any additional registration options or fees associated with a runner's failure to use registration instructions and code correctly will not be reimbursed.*

IMPORTANT DATES & DEADLINES

Charity Partner Program Application Open.....	August 8, 2025
Charity Partner Notified of Acceptance.....	September 1, 2025
Race Roster Fundraising Platform Onboard <i>VIRTUAL</i>	September 15, 2025
11:00 am CST (60 Minutes)	
<i>Attendance is highly encouraged for any partners using Race Roster to collect funds.</i>	
Runner Registration Instructions & Codes Distributed to Charities	October 10, 2025
Charities Invoiced for Charity Level Fee	January 2, 2026
CHARITY LEVEL FEE DUE	FEBRUARY 3, 2026
Last Day Runners can Transfer Bibs	May 1, 2026
LAST DAY TO REGISTER AS A CHARITY RUNNER	MAY 6, 2026
CODES EXPIRE AT 11:59 P.M. CDT	
Charities Invoiced for All Bibs Redeemed.....	May 6, 2026
Charity Entry Payment Due.....	June 7, 2026
William A. Irvin 5K 1:00 p.m.	June 19, 2026
Garry Bjorklund Half Marathon 6:00 a.m.....	June 21, 2026
Grandma's Marathon 7:45 a.m.....	June 21, 2026
FUNDRAISING TOTALS SUBMITTED TO G.M. OFFICE	JULY 10, 2026