

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 23, 2006

Contact for Team M3 – *beyond the finish line*:

Lionel Rabb, Team M3 Director

773/313-0075

m3@mgrf.org

<http://m3.mgrf.org>

We Did It! Team M3 – *beyond the finish line* Completes the LaSalle Bank Chicago Marathon

Early Sunday morning, Team M3 participants arrived together to witness the sea of humanity that is the LaSalle Bank Chicago Marathon. They quickly ran to the Marilyn G Rabb Foundation tent, and began their last-minute preparations before embarking on what would become a life-changing journey.

The bitterly cold Chicago air awaited every runner and spectator that fateful morn, but Team M3 was filled with a warmth that had little to do with the temperature. Each group of mentors and students rallied together, thinking not of the cold, but rather the spirit of teamwork that had developed over the many months of training and brought them to the marathon starting line.

Some three hours and fifty-seven minutes later, Team M3's lead pace group crossed the finish line, making Team M3 student Daniel Durazno the 4th fastest 16 year old in the marathon. They were shortly followed by the remaining pace groups and anchored by our 2 minutes run/2 minutes walk group at six hours and thirty minutes, completing this major achievement in their lives. It was clear that this grand race and the many months of preparation had truly transformed our at-risk student runners. They now better understand the power of discipline, hard work and dedication. Guided by committed adult mentors, these students have new skills that will last them well beyond the finish line.

Team M3's focus now shifts to its winter programming; not content with simply completing a marathon, participants are set to begin a new set of activities aimed at general health and well-being and designed to deepen the ties of mentor and student all the while redefining teamwork. So begins the next chapter, and so begin plans for next year's race. Perhaps you too will participate...join the team at m3.mgrf.org.

Team M3 (MGR Foundation's Mentoring Marathon) – *beyond the finish line*, connects at-risk Chicago Public High School students with committed adult mentors to train for, and complete, the LaSalle Bank Chicago Marathon.

The MGR Foundation's unique marathon program provides students and mentors a whole new reason to run. Through mentoring, concerned adults can share their passions for running with at-risk youth and help guide them towards positive futures. Team M3 will forever change the way we run; moving together to accomplish a great goal and moving together—*beyond the finish line*.

The MGR Foundation is a publicly supported 501(c)3 organization.

The mission of the MGR Foundation is one of commitment to overcoming social and educational barriers and creating innovative programs that positively impact our communities. The MGR Foundation is dedicated to expanding and refining educational and health programs, setting new standards for success and well-being.

###

For more information about M3 - beyond the finish line: <http://m3.mgrf.org>

For more information about MGR Foundation: <http://www.mgrf.org>

For information on partnerships with Team M3 contact Lionel Rabb: lrabb@mgrf.org

