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The 12th Annual DONNA Marathon Weekend Introduces Reimagined Course and Events
Registration Opens Tomorrow on Global Running Day, June 6

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (June 5, 2018) – The DONNA Foundation announced today an exciting transformation to its annual DONNA Marathon Weekend to be held Feb. 8-10, 2019. Runners participating in the 12th annual event can expect a new flatter and faster course with start and finish lines in one of the most dynamic locations in Jacksonville’s beaches, the Beaches Town Center at the nexus of Neptune and Atlantic Beach.

“We believe The Beaches Town Center, with its eclectic mix of shops, restaurants and entertainment will provide runners with a unique beach destination experience,” said event founder Donna Deegan. “This is what runners are telling us they want. A beautiful running venue and one that also offers a welcoming fan experience and exciting post-race celebration.”

The 12th year’s weekend events including the 5K, marathon, half marathon and race expo will take place on the island and participants will continue to enjoy Jacksonville’s beautiful beach communities of Atlantic Beach, Neptune Beach, Jacksonville Beach and Ponte Vedra Beach with scenic views and an outpouring of crowd support. The shift means the Intracoastal Bridge is no longer a part of the route. That makes the Boston Marathon-qualifying course, already one of Florida’s fastest, an even greater opportunity for some new personal records.

“We are truly thrilled to welcome this amazing event to Neptune Beach,” said Neptune Beach Mayor Elaine Brown. “Our community already embraces these runners with open arms, and I know our neighborhoods and our business community will go all out to support them and the wonderful cause they represent.”

Atlantic Beach Mayor Ellen Glasser added, "Atlantic Beach is proud to welcome all DONNA runners to our city in 2019. Get ready - along with our sister city, Neptune Beach, we will line our streets to cheer on runners warmly and loudly. In supporting the 12th annual 26.2 with DONNA The Marathon to Finish Breast Cancer, we are eager to shine the light of our special communities on the effort to finish this disease."

DONNA Marathon Weekend is the signature event for The DONNA Foundation, providing financial assistance to families facing breast cancer, and breast cancer research at Mayo Clinic. Finishing breast cancer remains at the heart of this 26.2-mile beach block party.

Registration for the DONNA Marathon Weekend opens tomorrow, June 6, on Global Running Day, at noon. For

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more information on DONNA Marathon Weekend or to register, visit www.breastcancermarathon.com.

About The DONNA Foundation

The DONNA Foundation, a private non-profit organization in Northeast Florida, provides financial assistance and support nationwide to those living with breast cancer and funds groundbreaking research to finish the disease once and for all. The organization participates in a variety of community outreach initiatives, educational programs and fundraising events yearly to support its mission, including hosting the only national marathon to finish breast cancer. Held annually on the second weekend of February, DONNA Marathon Weekend attracts runners and supporters from all 50 states and internationally. To date, the foundation has served more than 11,000 families in need and dispersed more than \$5 million to fuel programs that move families from a place of fear to a place of love. For more information, visit www.TheDONNAFoundation.org.

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