



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **Ferguson Twilight Run 2013 sets record for registration; donates \$10,000 for youth scholarships to Emerson YMCA**

*Ferguson, Mo.* – In 2010, the organizers of Ferguson Twilight Run set a goal of 300 runners and walkers for the inaugural race. The race drew more than 900 registrations for the one-mile and 5K event.

Fast forward to 2013 – Ferguson Twilight Run added a 10K distance to the traditional one-mile and 5K race. More than 1,680 people registered for the races on Saturday, May 18, 2013. Of those who registered, 1005 crossed the finish line for the 5K, and nearly 300 took on the challenge of the 10K.

“It was a great night for a race,” said Dwayne T. James, race director. “The enthusiasm and excitement for the race was obvious. From runners to walkers to the families and friends cheering them on, the race was a good time for everyone.”

“We’ve worked hard for the past four years to make this race what it is and we’ll keep working to keep it a great race,” said James. “It takes a lot of time, effort, support and dedication of our race committee and the City of Ferguson to bring everything together. The support from our residents, our volunteers and our sponsors makes a difference, too. There are many, many people who contribute their time, talent and treasure to the run.”

James noted that the race is a fun opportunity for participants to stay active while seeing the Ferguson community. John Shaw, city manager for the City of Ferguson, agrees. “The run is a great amenity for our residents and great way to showcase our neighborhoods and businesses to those who aren’t familiar with our community. We have a lot to be proud of in Ferguson and we love opportunities to show it off,” said Shaw.

The race benefits youth scholarships for summer programs at the Emerson Family YMCA. This year \$10,000 will be donated to the YMCA to give scholarships for children to participate in summer programs and activities.

“The Y’s summer programs, including camp, swimming lessons and youth sports, provide opportunities for children to gain confidence, be active and make lasting memories,” said Daniel Yonko, executive director for the Emerson Family YMCA. “We truly appreciate the support of the City of Ferguson and the participants of this event, and look forward to being able to offer summer programs to more children in the community.”

Ferguson Twilight Run sponsors include: Fifth Third Bank, Christian Hospital, Emerson, Sam’s Club #8125, Ferguson Citywalk, Live Well Ferguson, Big River Running, the City of Ferguson, Pearce Neikirk and Partners Realtors, Blue’s Arthouse Graphics and Web Design, Ferguson Brewing Company, Great Rivers Greenway, Mobile Eye Care Solutions, Alive Magazine, Edward and Sharon James, the Ferguson Farmer’s Market, and Emerson Family YMCA.

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### **Photo Information**

**Ferguson Twilight Run 025.jpg** – Runners line up at the start line at the 4th annual Ferguson Twilight Run 2013. (Photo courtesy John Ferlisi)