



April 6, 2011

Reporters May Contact:

Jon Schwartz, Bank of America, 1.646.855.3604

jon.schwartz@bankofamerica.com

**Bank of America Announces Recipients of \$500,000 in Contributions
To Continue Support for After School Youth Programming**

*Funding made through bank's two premiere Chicago-based running events will open
programs to an additional 4,000 young people*

CHICAGO — Bank of America today announced the recipients of a \$500,000 combined contribution, generated in part through its world-renowned Chicago-based running events, the Bank of America Chicago Marathon and the Bank of America Shamrock Shuffle 8K, which is scheduled for this Sunday, April 10, 2011.

The contribution, which was announced last fall in honor of longtime youth advocates Mayor Richard M. Daley and Maggie Daley, will be equally shared among the following five local organizations to expand after school programming for 4,000 Chicago area youth: ChicagoRun, Chicago Parkways Foundation, Girls on the Run, MGR Foundation and Special Children's Charities/Special Olympics Chicago. The financial support will also help each organization to purchase equipment, enhance coaching, and stage events and competitions to help foster the physical and emotional well-being of Chicago's youth.

"Family interest continues to increase for the demand of additional after school programs that directly assist in the cognitive and physical development of our youth and future leaders," said Tim Maloney, Bank of America Illinois Market President. "Through the Bank of America Shamrock Shuffle and Bank of America Chicago Marathon, we are in the unique position to help the nonprofit community advance the cause of education and physical fitness for Chicago's young people."

The \$500,000 contribution is part of Bank of America's Chicago Youth Fitness Initiative (CYFI), a program designed to help introduce more kids to healthy and more productive lifestyles through after school programming. In its second year, CYFI is funded through registration fees from the Shamrock Shuffle 8K and Chicago Marathon, with additional grant funding from the Bank of America Charitable Foundation. In addition to its funding, Bank of America has pledged leadership support and volunteerism to these organizations throughout the year.

More

Specifically, Bank of America's support will help each recipient organization expand the reach and impact of their after school programs in the following ways:

- **Chicago Run** will add 2,000 children to its "Chicago Runners" program which teaches elementary school children about the importance of healthy living at a young age. The free running program supports children in 29 different neighborhoods and delivers curriculum designed to fight against childhood obesity, sedentary lifestyles and poor nutrition. www.chicagorun.org
- **Chicago Parkways Foundation** will introduce its programming to 650 children and their families in six different neighborhoods. Support will also be given to the Chicago Park District's wellness programs and allow for collaboration with the Greater Chicago Food Depository to provide healthy meals and cooking demonstrations to families in need. www.parkways.org
- **Girls on the Run** will welcome more than 600 new members at an additional 38 locations for newly-implemented 12-week after-school curriculum. In addition, financial scholarships will be awarded to participants whose family may not be able to afford the program. www.gotrchicago.org
- **MGR Foundation** will expand by 200 students from seven Chicago public high schools and will add 100 new adult mentors. www.mgrf.org
- **SCC/Special Olympics Chicago** will provide increased transportation to local initiatives, enabling 500 new athletes to join the program. Camps will also now include gymnastics, tennis and karate instruction. www.sochicago.org

"Bank of America's support allows us to get more kids on a path to a more active and healthy lifestyle including eating healthier and incorporating exercise into their weekly routines," said Alicia Gonzalez, ChicagoRun's executive director. "The Chicago non-profit sector continues to feel the impact of a slow economic recovery, and it's encouraging to see the bank's ongoing commitment to helping organizations like ours accomplish our mission."

The Chicago Youth Fitness Initiative continues Bank of America's longtime support of after school programming in Chicago. Among other programs the bank supports: After School Matters, Boys & Girls Clubs of Chicago, By the Hand Club for Kids, Chicago Training Center, Chicago Youth Centers and 826CHI, Inc and Midtown Educational Foundation.

More

Bank of America Shamrock Shuffle 8K

Long recognized as an annual rite of spring and the kick-off to the outdoor running season in Chicago, the Bank of America Shamrock Shuffle 8K takes runners on a scenic tour of downtown Chicago, starting and finishing in Grant Park. The race will begin at the intersection of Columbus Drive and Monroe Street at 9 a.m. on April 10, and will conclude with live musical entertainment at the traditional Post-Race Party in Grant Park. In advance of the event, the two-day Bank of America Shamrock Shuffle Health & Fitness Expo will take place at Navy Pier April 8-9 and will feature more than 80 industry-related exhibitors. The Expo is free and open to the public. For more information about the event and how to get involved, go to shamrockshuffle.com.

Bank of America

Bank of America is one of the world's largest financial institutions, serving individual consumers, small- and middle-market businesses and large corporations with a full range of banking, investing, asset management and other financial and risk management products and services. The company provides unmatched convenience in the United States, serving approximately 57 million consumer and small business relationships with more than 5,800 retail banking offices and approximately 18,000 ATMs and award-winning online banking with 29 million active users. Bank of America is among the world's leading wealth management companies and is a global leader in corporate and investment banking and trading across a broad range of asset classes, serving corporations, governments, institutions and individuals around the world. Bank of America offers industry-leading support to approximately 4 million small business owners through a suite of innovative, easy-to-use online products and services. The company serves clients through operations in more than 40 countries. Bank of America Corporation stock (NYSE: BAC) is a component of the Dow Jones Industrial Average and is listed on the New York Stock Exchange.

www.bankofamerica.com

###