



**OFFICIAL
CHARITY**

CRI MARATHON TEAM

September 9, 2019

Brighton, MA - Community Rowing, Inc. (CRI) is thrilled to announce that it has been named a member of the 2020 Boston Marathon Official Charity Program. CRI will receive 15 invitational entries to the 2020 Boston Marathon in support of its Para Rowing Programs. These programs offer youth and adults with physical and intellectual disabilities an opportunity to experience the profound physical and mental benefits of rowing. CRI marathon runners' fundraising efforts will provide direct support for the innovative training and advocacy of Para athletes and the continued development of inclusion programs.

Through the Boston Athletic Association (BAA) Official Charity Program, Community Rowing was chosen as one of 43 local and national nonprofit organizations. Each year, the BAA supports select organizations that strengthen the local community by providing a significant fundraising opportunity. In 2019, participants running the 123rd Boston Marathon on behalf of the members of the Official Charity Program raised \$20.3 million.

Ted Benford, CRI's Executive Director, is looking forward to the partnership, "To be affiliated so meaningfully with a cornerstone of the Boston philanthropic community as well as the identity of our amazing city is a highlight for Community Rowing. We are grateful for the opportunity to use our partnership with the BAA to recruit runners who want to make a difference in the lives of those we serve."

ABOUT COMMUNITY ROWING, INC.

CRI was founded in Boston in 1985 by a group of Olympic and National Team rowers who wanted to expand access and increase diversity within the sport of rowing. It is now the largest public access rowing organization in the world with more than 12,000 active participants from the Greater Boston area.

Community Rowing, Inc. offers the most expansive and inclusive rowing programming in the country, aiming to bring the sport of rowing to those who wish to be challenged, grow and be

inspired. The goal is to make the sport accessible without regard to individual ability, background, experience, or income.

CRI is the USRowing Para Training Center, the first national training center for rowers with disabilities in the United States, and we are committed to advancing Para Rowing at all levels. CRI is also proud to offer a variety of rowing programs to 5,000 students from the Boston Public School system and to 1,000 military veterans from any branch of the military service.

The complete list of Official Charity Programs is available at
<https://www.baa.org/races/boston-marathon/charity-program>

For more information, please contact:

Nicole Juri
Boston Athletic Association
Manager, Charity & Community Partnerships
njuri@baa.org
617-778-1607

Ted Benford
Community Rowing, Inc.
Executive Director
ted@communityrowing.org
617-797-0241

###