

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Chevron Houston Marathon to Celebrate Countdown to Race Day at Run for a Reason Kickoff Party

HOUSTON (Sep. 15, 2011) – The Chevron Houston Marathon celebrates the race season on Thursday, September 22 at its annual Run for a Reason Kickoff Party at Memorial Park from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Free and open to the public, this family-friendly event will feature music, drinks and refreshments, and more than 75 booths including Run for a Reason official charities, running clubs, sponsors and a special appearance by the Houston Texans Cheerleaders.

“The kickoff event is an exciting and fun time for us each year,” said Wade Morehead, executive director of the Houston Marathon Committee. “It’s a chance for the Committee, runners and charities to celebrate and connect with one another, and it also means race weekend is just 16 weeks away.”

Free “In Training” T-shirts will be available to the first 2,000 registered runners, as well as Run for a Reason Under Armour performance shirts for \$20 with proceeds benefitting Marathon Kids.

Runners are encouraged to bring old running shoes to donate to [SEARCH Homeless Services](#), a Run for a Reason official charity.

SuperShuttle will provide complimentary transportation to the kickoff event from the Becks Prime and tennis courts parking lots.

Last year, the Run for a Reason charity program generated a record \$2,086,000 benefiting 52 nonprofit organizations, and today surpassed the \$13-million mark in charitable donations in the program’s 17-year history.

The 40th anniversary Chevron Houston Marathon and companion Aramco Houston Half Marathon and El Paso Corporation 5K will take place on January 15, 2012, with the Houston Marathon Committee’s hosting of the 2012 U.S. Olympic Team Trials – Marathon on January 14, 2012, one day prior to race day.

Runners can still be a part of the 40th anniversary weekend through the El Paso Corporation 5K and Run for a Reason charity program. Limited marathon and half marathon charity entries are available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Details about how to enroll can be found at [ChevronHoustonMarathon.com](#).

About the Houston Marathon Committee, Inc.

Established in 1972, the Houston Marathon Committee, Inc. (HMC), a Running USA Founding Member, annually organizes the nation’s premier winter marathon, half-marathon, 5K and kids’ fun run. In 2011, more than 30,000 runners participated in four race weekend events organized by 7,500 volunteers, creating Houston’s largest single-day sporting event. In addition to hosting numerous world-renowned road races, including the USA Men’s and Women’s Half Marathon Championships since 2005 and 2007, respectively, and the 1992 U.S. Women’s Olympic Marathon Trials, HMC will host the 2012 U.S. Men’s and Women’s Olympic Team Trials - Marathon on January 14, 2012.

For more information, visit houstonmarathon.com or call 713.957.3453.

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