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Annual Town of Palm Beach United Way Turkey Trot provides Thanksgiving meals to thousands of Palm Beach County residents

For Release – Thursday, November 27, 2025

Contact: Aleese Kopf, 561-655-1919; aleesekopf@palmbeachunitedway.org

PALM BEACH, FL – More than 1,500 people started their Thanksgiving morning early by participating in the 17th Annual Town of Palm Beach United Way Turkey Trot race at Bradley Park. Proceeds from the 5K race, which began at 7:30 AM, provided meals for 7,756 children and adults.

Joseph Berrafati, 26, of Boston, was the first to cross the finish line and first overall male finisher with a time of 17 minutes and 10 seconds. **Megan Kuhnle**, 28, of Boulder, placed first overall for females finishing in 18 minutes and 12 seconds. Berrafati and Kuhnle each received a trophy and a \$300 gift card to Pizza Al Fresco. The top two men and women finishers in 10 age divisions also won trophies. All participants who crossed the finish line received a signature Turkey Trot medal.

The sold-out event also featured a Kids Drumstick Dash, raffle drawing, children's activities, music and refreshments. The Drumstick Dash had 110 participants and was sponsored by **Capehart Photography** and **C.R. Wilson Construction**.

"The Palm Beach Turkey Trot has become the way so many families in our community start Thanksgiving," said **Francesca Coniglio Finck**, who co-chairs the event with her husband, **William Finck**, sister, **Gabrielle Coniglio Fricker**, and brother-in-law, **Scott Fricker**. "Seeing this sold-out crowd of parents, kids, grandparents—even strollers and dogs—out here laughing, running, and walking together while giving back is the warmest reminder of what this holiday is all about."

Added **Gabrielle Coniglio Fricker**: "Every year, the Turkey Trot feels like a joyful neighborhood reunion. We are so grateful to every family who makes this part of their Thanksgiving tradition. Because of their enthusiasm and generosity, our community comes together in a fun, service-minded way that ensures thousands of our neighbors can celebrate the holiday with a special meal."

The Turkey Trot would not be possible without the support of 75 corporate sponsors and in kind donors. This year's race is underwritten by Premier Sponsors **Livingston Builders, Inc.** and **Palm Beach Police and Fire Foundation**, and Title Sponsors **Douglas Elliman Real Estate | Lisa Wilkinson + Cara Coniglio McClure** and **Findlay Galleries**. **Bruce Gendelman Insurance**, **Centerpoint Construction**, **Christian Angle Real Estate**, **Crest Air**, **Lilly Pulitzer**, and **Pumphouse Coffee Roasters** supported the race as Platinum Sponsors. Gold sponsors were **Barron International Group**, **Beebe Law**, **Boast**, **Café L'Europe**, **Caraccio Pools**, **College Admissions Counseling Group**, **Flagler Technologies**, **Future Waves**, **Haynes Scaffolding**, **Hotel Planner**, **Simon Isaacs Real Estate** and **Surovek Gallery**.

Race proceeds allowed the Town of Palm Beach United Way to grant funds totaling \$77,200 to 25 nonprofit agencies so they could provide a total of 7,756 meals for their clients. Some agencies hosted in-person events and others prepared to-go meals.

The Lord's Place hosted a traditional feast of turkey, ham, all the classic sides, and pie for over 375 clients. Proceeds from the trot also allowed the agency to host a raffle where clients received hygiene items and other small gifts, set up a dance floor with music, and provide engaging activities.

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“The day was truly special,” said Anne Noble, Chief Advancement Officer at The Lord’s Place. “The joy and appreciation in the room was palpable—our clients and residents were so grateful for the opportunity to come together and celebrate in a meaningful way. Your investment in our community made this day possible, and the impact extends far beyond a single meal. You helped create memories, foster connection, and remind people experiencing homelessness that they are valued and cared for during the holiday season.”

-end-

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