



Greater Milwaukee  
& Waukesha County

### **For Immediate Release**

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## **HaRUNbee 5K Walk/Run to be Held August 6**

*Harambee resident leads charge after death of newborn son*

[July 13, 2016] Milwaukee – The HaRUNbee 5k Walk/Run for Healthy Birth Outcomes will be held on August 6 in the Harambee neighborhood, a community that experiences the second highest rate of infant mortality in the City of Milwaukee. [Harambee resident, Tonda Thompson](#) has lead the charge for planning and organizing the walk/run in honor of her son who passed away shortly after his birth in 2013.

The walk/run, presented by the Froedtert & the Medical College of Wisconsin health network, was organized by Thompson through the [Milwaukee Lifecourse Initiative for Healthy Families \(LIHF\)](#) with the mission to promote wellness and healthy birth outcomes by encouraging families to stay healthy and fit, both mentally and physically. The event's goal is to spark engagement in the Harambee community by bringing all ages and all races together internally as well as including the surrounding neighborhoods.

Wanda Montgomery, Director of Community Partnerships for Children's Hospital of Wisconsin, said of the event, "As a Co-Chair of the Milwaukee Lifecourse Initiative for Healthy Families, I hope that this physical demonstration will bring more awareness to the infant mortality issue in our community and how we can work together to improve outcomes for our babies."

The HaRUNbee 5K Walk/Run was recently approved as an official City of Milwaukee event and a part of Bronzeville Week through legislation written by Alderwoman Milele A. Coggs. "According to the City of Milwaukee Fetal Infant Mortality Review Report (2013), during 2009-2011, the Harambee neighborhood had the second highest rate of infant mortality in the City of Milwaukee." said Alderwoman Coggs. "HaRUNbee will allow residents of Milwaukee, from both within and outside of the Harambee community, to come together and participate in a 5K Walk/Run as an effort to increase infant mortality education and to support each other in this important public health endeavor."

HaRUNbee is sponsored by the Froedtert & the Medical College of Wisconsin health network, City of Milwaukee Health Department, Children's Community Health Plan, Athena Communications and Kelly Leadership Group. Pre-registration, volunteer opportunities and more event information is currently available online:

<https://www.unitedwaygmwc.org/HaRUNbee>



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**About Milwaukee Lifecourse Initiative for Healthy Families (LIHF):** LIHF is a community-wide collaborative led by the United Way of Greater Milwaukee & Waukesha County, working to eliminate racial disparities in birth outcomes and ensure more babies reach their first birthday. It is funded through the UW School of Medicine and Public Health from the Wisconsin Partnership Program.

**About United Way of Greater Milwaukee & Waukesha County:** *United Way of Greater Milwaukee & Waukesha County improves our community by mobilizing people and resources to drive strategic impact in Education, Income and Health – the building blocks for a good quality of life. Learn more at:*  
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