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COUNTY EXECUTIVE TO PRESENT PROCEEDS FROM HUDSON COUNTY’S “STRIDES FOR SAFETY 5K” TO NATIONAL GUN SAFETY ORGANIZATION

Monday evening’s brief ceremony will memorialize the SFS5K’s first donation

Jersey City, NJ—Hudson County Executive Tom DeGise, and his Chief of Staff Craig Guy will present a check for $10,000 raised from the inaugural “Hudson County Strides for Safety 5K” to Brady, a survivor-led national gun violence prevention organization. The presentation will take place on Monday, December 12th at 5PM in the rotunda of the Historic Brennan Courthouse in Jersey City, NJ.

Kevin Quinn, Chairman of the Board of Brady and a New Jersey resident, will accept the donation on behalf of the gun safety non-profit which, as described on its website, “emphasizes education, litigation, and legislation to ensure that every community is safe, not only from mass shootings, but also from the daily toll of gun homicide, domestic violence, suicide, unintentional shootings, and police violence.”

The First Annual Hudson County Strides for Safety 5k Against Gun Violence took place on Saturday, September 10th in Lincoln Park West. More than 500 people took part, running and walking to show their support for gun safety action.
The donation to Brady comes from the AERO Fund, a non-profit (501c3) created by the County Executive nearly two decades ago to support important community causes. AERO was the entity that the race was organized thru to allow a donation to be made from race proceeds to a gun-safety non-profit.

“We are proud to make this donation to help keep our communities safer,” said County Executive DeGise, “Brady is making a difference on this issue every day nationwide, we are glad to support their work.”

“I served in law enforcement for twenty-five years and too often saw the terrible impact gun violence had on families and neighborhoods in our community,” said DeGise’s Chief of Staff, Craig Guy. “It was time for us to “act locally” as the saying goes, and create an event that could raise awareness—and financial support—to encourage gun safety.”

In less than two months, a team of county staffers organized a road race that drew an enthusiastic contingent of more than 500 runners and walkers to the roads and pathways through Lincoln Park West, many of them dressed in their blue “Strides for Safety 5K” tee shirts. Before the start, Liz Dunning, a marathoner and Brady’s Vice President of Development who lost her mother to gun violence, addressed the participants, which included Governor Phil Murphy and NJ’s First Lady, who both ran personal bests for the 3.1 mile distance on the scenic, certified course.

“Brady proudly accepts this donation from the Hudson County Strides for Safety 5K,” said Brady’s Kevin Quinn. “We thank all of the participants, including Governor Murphy and his wife Tammy, and to the County Executive, Chief Guy, and the event staff. The effort to end gun violence is a national one—but it will only succeed with local action like that demonstrated here in Hudson County.”
The Strides for Safety 5K will be an annual event held each autumn by the County and officially organized through the AERO Fund. The tentative race date for next year is September 16th, 2023. You can learn more about the work of Brady United on their website, https://www.bradyunited.org.

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