



AGA KHAN FOUNDATION
An agency of the Aga Khan Development Network

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**CHICAGO MOVES TO BUILD A BETTER FUTURE
AT AGA KHAN FOUNDATION WALK-RUN**

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, August 5, 2016. On Sunday, August 14, thousands of Chicagoans will move to invest in long-term solutions to improve the quality of life for communities worldwide. The annual [Aga Khan Foundation Walk-Run – Chicago](#), will be held at Montrose Harbor. As an initiative of the [Aga Khan Foundation](#) (AKF), the event raises awareness and funds for programs that mobilize communities around the world to build better futures.

In addition to the Walk that has drawn Chicago residents for a good cause for many years, activities include a 1K Color Fun Run and a 5K Run. The 5K Run starts at 8:30 a.m., the 1K Color Fun Run gets going at 9:30, and the Walk gets moving at 10:30 a.m. Previous Chicago Walk-Run events have raised over \$800,000 and organizers expect this year's event to raise more, given enthusiasm from participants and sponsors including national sponsor The Coca-Cola Company. 100 percent of net proceeds from the tournament go directly to projects supported by the Aga Khan Foundation.

The charity event attracts high-level corporate executives, civic leaders, and celebrities, including Jesse White, Illinois Secretary of State; Mike Parsons, Account Executive for Coca-Cola Bottling North America; and Aleem Walji, CEO of Aga Khan Foundation in the U.S. WGN-AM radio host Bill Moller will serve as master of ceremonies.

Participants in the Walk-Run help communities in some of the poorest areas of Africa and Asia improve their quality of life. Contributions make a tremendous impact in creating locally driven opportunities for girls in Pakistan to attend school, farmers in Mali to feed their families and improve their incomes, and mothers in East Africa to lead healthy lives. These activities of the Aga Khan Foundation build flourishing economies and thriving communities.

The Aga Khan Foundation cultivates deep partnerships with local businesses, nonprofits, governments and community leaders to harness the best from people of all walks of life. Working with partners, the Foundation makes long-term commitments to innovative programs that improve the quality of life, from early childhood education to green space preservation. To learn more about the Aga Khan Foundation's approach and impact visit www.akfusa.org.

The Walk-Run event is a great opportunity to volunteer for a good cause. To find out more about volunteer opportunities, email chicagowalk@akfusa.org. To register, view the schedule, learn more about the event, become a sponsor or make a donation, visit <http://support.akfusa.org/chicagowalkrun>.

Since 1995, the Aga Khan Foundation's activities including the annual Walk and Golf events have attracted nearly a half million participants and raised over \$85 million for poverty alleviation projects supported by the foundation.

About the Aga Khan Foundation

The [Aga Khan Foundation](#) (AKF) partners with communities, nonprofits, businesses, governments and local leaders to make long-term investments, build permanent institutions and cultivate an active civil society. Our work focuses

on harnessing the best from people of all walks of life to build better futures together by breaking the cycle of poverty across Africa and Asia. Driven by our belief in our shared humanity, for nearly 50 years AKF has been working for the common good of all citizens, regardless of gender, origin or religion. The Aga Khan Foundation U.S.A. is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

AKF is a member of the [Aga Khan Development Network](#) (AKDN), one of the world's leading poverty solutions networks, established by [His Highness the Aga Khan](#). The Aga Khan Development Network helps improve the quality of life for tens of millions of people annually in 30 countries and the Aga Khan Foundation supports this work globally. AKDN's integrated multi-sector approach to development is grounded in its decades of experience, learning and evaluation. The Network employs over 80,000 people with a budget of about \$625 million for nonprofit social and cultural activities. The Network's for-profit, commercial arm builds economically sound enterprises in the developing world, generating annual revenues of about \$4.1 billion, with all surpluses reinvested in activities to enhance development and improve the quality of life of communities living in fragile, remote or post-conflict regions.

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