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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

AC Race Series' Bungalow Beach Boardwalk 5 Miler presented by AmeriHealth New Jersey Draws Over 600 Endurance Athletes Back to the Atlantic City Boardwalk

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The Atlantic City Marathon Race Series' Bungalow Beach Boardwalk 5 Miler presented by AmeriHealth New Jersey hosted over 650 runners in persona and 50 runners participating virtually in their own communities. The 5 mile race held on Saturday, June 26 on the Atlantic City and Ventnor Boardwalk ended with a 100 yard dash to the finish line on the sand alongside the Atlantic Ocean. At the finish line, runners and their families enjoyed music, awards and great food and drink in the Ibiza style beach bar at Bungalow Beach, Atlantic City.

The second race in the 2021 Race Series was fueled by runner confidence that races are in fact back! The success of the AmeriHealth New Jersey April Fools Half Marathon on April 22 & 23 provided the running community here in Atlantic County with the confidence that races could return after a year of cancelations due to COVID-19. Working with the Atlantic City Sports Commission, a tremendous partner in helping with contracting hotel rooms for our events along with additional marketing support, the Race Series saw the return of local and regional runners to this year's events.

"It felt amazing to get back to racing after a long year. There's no better feeling than getting to that start line and finishing the race knowing that you accomplished something. Racing is finally back and I couldn't be happier," said Lori Rendo, 5 Miler finisher of Bardonia, NY.

Like many runners, Lori was registered for several races in 2020 that were canceled due to restrictions. While the Atlantic City Marathon Race Series events took place virtually, being able to host events again in person provides a different experience for runners, event participants and families visiting the area for the event. The 2021 Series will continue with the historic Atlantic City Marathon race weekend on October 16 & 17. Despite the cancellation of the in person event in 2020, the Atlantic City Marathon continued its legacy by offering runners the option of participating virtually. Over 700 virtual race participants competed from their own marathon course on or before race day and submitted their results online. This year's race will be the 63rd running of the Atlantic City Marathon, the third oldest continuing marathon in the country.

“This was my first race since 2019, Pre-COVID times. It was an emotional one for me. There were a couple times were I caught myself tearing up along the course because it's still so hard to believe I'm back running in person with all these others around me. I trained hard last year for a race that didn't exist. So to run and finish this race was perfect. I can't wait to run in A.C again,” Kyla Niedermeyer of Catasauqua, PA. This sentiment is shared by the Event Volunteer Race Committee as well as staff of the Milton & Betty Katz JCC located in Margate New Jersey.

“It was amazing to see so many runners participate in the race this weekend. The enthusiasm and excitement to be back on the road was contagious to all that volunteered along the course. The Race Series is a community-based organization as we depend on our local municipalities, volunteers and the runners to make the events what they are today,” Marg Rosenblatt, CEO of the Milton & Betty Katz JCC. Proceeds from the Race Series benefits the Katz JCC's Senior Programs, Membership scholarships and the Early Childhood Scholarship Fund giving children the opportunity to experience a meaningful education in an exciting atmosphere while creating new friendships and lifelong memories. “Our challenge over the last year was to continue to provide support to families, seniors and community programs that depend on the J to flourish, stay healthy and grow. Fundraisers like the Atlantic City Marathon Race Series events give us the opportunity to meet this need,” explained Rosenblatt.

Event sponsors include AmeriHealth New Jersey, Bungalow Beach AC and official beer of the race, Michelob Ultra Lite.

For more information, visit www.acraceseries.com or contact Genia Bittner, Race Director, at 609-822-1167 ext. 118 or acmarathon@jccatlantic.org.

About Atlantic City Marathon Race Series

About the Atlantic City Marathon Race Series: The Atlantic City Marathon Race Series is a division of the Milton and Betty Katz JCC, a non-profit organization based in Margate, New Jersey. The Race Series is dedicated to supporting the local community charitable works as well as the Milton and Betty Katz Early Childhood Scholarship Programs. Working in conjunction with National charitable organizations, it is the goal of the Atlantic City Marathon Race Series to support organizations that fundraise through road racing events. For each participant, the Race Series strives to offer events that allow participants of all skill levels to participate and accomplish their personal goals. The Atlantic City Marathon Race Series provides sponsors and

the local community highly effective exposure throughout the year to help maximize their presence and support the community

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