



## The 2020 One World Marathon

### What is the One World Marathon?

The One World Marathon is a movement (running, walking, rolling, etc.) and team building event created and implemented by the One World Strong Foundation that exemplifies and promotes the core principles of unity, peace, collaboration and connection through running and other healthy physical activities.

The implementation of a strong, unified virtual platform that supports the message of connectivity and openness contradicts the basic premises of bigotry and separatism; providing a rigorous counter narrative to those produced by violent extremism and terrorist rhetoric.

\*\* With the unprecedented global changes due to COVID-19, we are now moving the event to the fall of 2020 – details below. As some teams have already formed, we will continue to build on their success and stories of collaboration throughout the spring and summer – you'll be able to see updates via our social media sites. We are also planning links to online activities for those having to self-quarantine, as well as those sheltered in place.

By providing an opportunity for youth and adults from around the world to participate together in a virtual marathon (combining their miles/steps toward a team goal of 26.2 miles), we foster the development of a global citizen mindset. Participation and the resulting experiences and stories build awareness and generate support for those that struggle with both the physical and psychological challenges related to trauma. Our participants begin to learn that when a diverse global community of caring people work together toward a common goal, they can change the world.

### Who can participate?

The One World Marathon is designed for anyone, we'll even have participants in their 90's. It is ideal for schools, YMCA's, sports clubs, community organizations, businesses and other civic minded organizations. An adult "Team Captain" is responsible for registering each group. Each team will be encouraged to partner with at least one team, or other people from different countries to connect people from around the world.

Teams may contain any number of participants. A central objective of the event is to connect people across borders and diverse backgrounds, therefore we encourage teams that represent multiple continents, countries and cultures. For example, schools and individuals in any country can pair with peers in the Middle East, North America, Africa, Europe, Australia, or Asia. Using existing social media and communication channels on the One World Strong website, teams can organize, communicate and track the contributions of their members throughout training and during the fall marathon event. Shared experiences and stories will further endorse the marathon's message of cross-cultural collaboration, interpersonal connection and teamwork.

### How will teams from around the world communicate?

By joining, you will become part of an international community and a force for goodwill. One World Strong will provide access to our existing social media platforms (WhatsApp, Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, etc.) to facilitate partner team communication. Partner teams are encouraged to interact and share their preparations, training and to learn about each other in the spirit of cross-cultural immersion.

### When is it happening?

- The One World Virtual Marathon will start on Monday, September 14<sup>th</sup> 2020 simultaneously with the Boston Marathon, passing through the London Marathon on Sunday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, and ending on Friday, October 9<sup>th</sup> in Jordan as the last person crosses the Amman Marathon finish line – a 26 day global event.
- To learn more about the event - log onto the website ([www.oneworldstrong.org](http://www.oneworldstrong.org)).
- Participants will share stories and experiences via social media, helping to build relationships and bridges of understanding. **Hashtag:** #OWM2020 **Tagline:** One World, One Future Together, Never Give Up

### Who is the One World Foundation?

- The One World Strong Foundation is a 501(c)(3) charity, founded by survivors of the Boston Marathon bombing, which endeavors to create a thriving global community of survivors of terrorist, extremist, and mass casualty attacks in nations around the world. The Foundation embodies the core principles of unity, connection, and cooperation as the pathway to a more harmonious future. By fostering resiliency and a counter narrative through shared stories, One World Strong supports the core belief that people of all nations should work together peacefully toward common goals.

### Get Involved

For more information, please contact Lina Kurd (Jordan/Middle East) at [l.kurd@runjordan.com](mailto:l.kurd@runjordan.com) - Alan Fraser (Europe) at [AFr@cranford.hounslow.sch.uk](mailto:AFr@cranford.hounslow.sch.uk) - Zambo Regis Gaël (Africa) at [regis.zambo@oneworldstrong.org](mailto:regis.zambo@oneworldstrong.org) - Hakim Chambaz (Canada) at [hakim.chambaz@oneworldstrong.org](mailto:hakim.chambaz@oneworldstrong.org) - and Dave Fortier (Global) at [dave.fortier@oneworldstrong.org](mailto:dave.fortier@oneworldstrong.org)

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