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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE September 11, 2017

BREAST CANCER SURVIVOR TO BE RECOGNIZED BY INDIANAPOLIS WOMEN'S HALF MARATHON & 5K

Kimberlee Murray announced as final 2017 Phenomenal Woman

INDIANAPOLIS...The Indianapolis Women's Half Marathon & 5K, owned and produced by Carmel Road Racing Group, announced today that it will recognize Fishers resident Kimberlee Murray as the third and final 2017 Phenomenal Women. To be chosen, a Phenomenal Woman must meet one of three criteria: she is an advocate for women's running, she has changed her community for the better or she has overcome personal or physical adversity.

Murray will be introduced during the Opening Ceremonies at this year's race on Saturday, September 30, 2017. The Opening Ceremonies will begin at 7:00 a.m. at the starting line, located at Ohio and Meridian Streets. She was chosen because she overcame breast cancer and she is an advocate for women's running. Murray will toe the line herself after the ceremony and run in the 5K event.

In December of 2016, Murray's routine mammogram showed some calcification and was followed by ultrasounds, MRIs and biopsies. On March 1, 2017, she had both breasts removed. Fortunately, because her seven centimeter tumor was localized and had not spread to the lymph nodes, no chemotherapy or radiation was needed.

Murray is a school nurse for Hamilton Southeastern School District. She and her husband, Nate, have three children ages 11, 9 and 5. Throughout her treatment and recovery Murray says she constantly asked each of her doctors, "Can I still run? When can I run again?"

"Kimberlee exemplifies the spirit of runners: one of overcoming and persevering. I am pleased to recognize her winning spirit as a Phenomenal Woman," says race director Todd Oliver.

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"When you go through all the diagnosing, testing, surgery and everything that goes along with it you can lose a little of who you are, at least I did. Both literally and figuratively," says Murray. "I'm somewhat a private person and I had to give that up a bit. I had to bare all for pretty much everyone. Running was something that cancer couldn't and didn't take any of "me" out of me. Knowing I could get back on the road and trail helped me heal both physically and mentally. I have a huge wall of all my running bling in my office at home, from medals to sombreros, which I get to look at every day to help remind me that no matter what challenges I have faced, I'm still me"...



About Indy Women's Half Marathon & 5K - The Indy Women's Half Marathon was introduced to the central Indiana running community in August 2010 as the first women's only half marathon in Indiana. In just a few years, it has become the **largest women's running event in the state and the 13th largest Women's half marathon in the U.S.** A women's only race offers a unique atmosphere, emotion and camaraderie from women of all ages and abilities. Some race competitively, some for charities, some for loved ones or for reasons we may never know about and some will run with friends decked out in colorful fashions. According to a 2014 Running USA industry report, there are 8.6 million female runners in the U.S. Within that group, half marathons are the fastest growing race distance. For more information or to register for either the Half Marathon or 5K, go to www.indywomenshalfmarathon.com.