FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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EDITOR’S NOTE: Professional publicity photos are available for media use. Media are also invited to cover the event on Sunday, October 16. Please contact Alyse Albaum from Rutgers Alumni Relations at 848-932-1995 or aalbaum@winants.rutgers.edu for assistance.

Homecoming 5K Charity Race Supports “Rutgers Against Hunger”

New Brunswick, NJ – The Rutgers University Alumni Association (RUAA) is hosting the Homecoming Run for RAH (Rutgers Against Hunger) presented by Liberty Mutual on Sunday, October 16, 2011, at 8:00 a.m. in Piscataway, NJ, on the university’s Busch campus. The Run for RAH is a USATF-certified 5K race, and will also include a one-mile fun walk and a health-and-wellness fair. This public event is part of a full weekend of Homecoming activities sponsored by the RUAA. Complete details and registration are available at http://Ralumni.com/homecomingrun.

The RUAA’s Homecoming Run for RAH will support Rutgers Against Hunger, a universitywide initiative that works to increase awareness of hunger, encourage activism and service to tackle hunger, stimulate research to assist those in need, and provide immediate relief through food drives and other events to raise money and collect food.

“The Rutgers University Alumni Association is making a difference in the critical fight against hunger throughout New Jersey,” said Donna Thornton, vice president for alumni relations at Rutgers University. “We are thrilled that so many alumni, family, and friends are supporting Rutgers Against Hunger by participating in the Homecoming Run for RAH.”

Registration for the RUAA’s Homecoming Run for RAH begins at 8:00 a.m. at the North Gate of Rutgers University’s High Point Solutions Stadium, Busch Campus, 1 Scarlet Knight Way, Piscataway, NJ 08854. The complete schedule for the day is as follows:

8:00 a.m. Registration and Health Fair begin
9:00 a.m. 1-Mile Fun Walk begins
9:30 a.m. 5K Race begins
10:30 a.m. Refreshments/Prizes/Awards
12:00 noon     Event concludes

Participants may register in advance as individuals or with a team at http://Ralumni.com/homecomingrun. The registration fees are as follows:

Pre-registration (price good through 10/10/11 and includes a t-shirt):
5K Race: $20 ($18 USATF Members)
1-Mile Walk: $15

Registration on race day, October 16 (t-shirt quantities limited for day-of registrants):
5K Race: $25 ($23 USATF Members)
1-Mile Walk: $20

A portion of the entry fee is deductible as a charitable contribution for federal income tax purposes to the maximum extent allowed by law.

At the conclusion of the race, prizes will be awarded in the following categories (including special categories for student participants): Most Team Participants Present, Top RAH Fundraising Team, Most Canned and Boxed Foods Collected, Best Theme Team, Top Male and Female Runners Overall, and Top Male and Female Runners in Standard Age Groups.

All participants and spectators are asked to bring one non-perishable food item for donation to Rutgers Against Hunger. This year, Rutgers Against Hunger is supporting M.C.F.O.O.D.S. (Middlesex County Food Organization and Outreach Distribution Services). M.C.F.O.O.D.S. collects and distributes non-perishable items at no cost to more than 70 local food pantries and soup kitchens throughout Middlesex County as well as an additional 25 agencies including residential facilities, shelters, social service agencies, programs for women and children, senior citizen housing facilities, and other outreach services.

From September 22 through October 14, 2011, Homecoming Run for RAH sponsor Liberty Mutual is hosting drop-off locations for non-perishable food items between the hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at several of their offices. Locations include:

Somerset Office, 399 Campus Drive, Somerset, NJ 08873
Freehold Office, 303 West Main Street Suite 100, Freehold, NJ 07728
Lawrenceville Office, 3131 Princeton Pike, Suite 203, Lawrenceville, NJ 08648

“Liberty Mutual is proud to support Rutgers and the RAH campaign by collecting food for M.C.F.O.O.D.S.,” said April Yavil, national account manager of affinity marketing for Liberty Mutual Insurance. “Middlesex County is more than a place where we do business; it’s where so many of our employees live and raise their families. We will make our communities and all of New Jersey an even better place to live, work, and play when we successfully strike out hunger.”

Volunteers are also needed to help make this a successful event. Contact RunForRAH@winants.rutgers.edu or 848-932-2299 to volunteer.

For more information or to sign up for the RUAA’s Homecoming Run for RAH 5K Charity Race and One-Mile Fun Walk, visit http://Ralumni.com/homecomingrun, email RunForRAH@winants.rutgers.edu, or call 848-932-2299.