



☎ 330-253-3100

🌐 [www.portagepath.org](http://www.portagepath.org)

📍 340 South Broadway Street  
Akron, Ohio 44308

Dear Community Partner:

We would like to invite your company to sponsor the 9th annual **KJ's 5k for Mental Health & Animal Rescue**. The 5k will be held on the morning of Saturday, October 4, 2025, at Portage Lakes State Park, while a virtual KJ's 5k is available nationwide throughout the month of September in recognition of National Suicide Prevention Month.

KJ's 5k aims to stem the tide of the **suicide epidemic**. For the last 23 years, the suicide rate has increased nationwide by over 37.15%. In 2023 alone, the U.S. recorded **49,000 deaths by suicide**, this equates to **1 death every 11 minutes**. Roughly **1.5 million** individuals attempted suicided. Here in Summit County, the suicide rate stands at **17 per 100,000, or nearly 15% ABOVE the national average**.

Please look over the specific uses of the funds raised by this event, and the sponsorship opportunities on the following pages. We invite you to select a level that represents your commitment to this important issue. Because costs of the 5k are covered by the entry fees, 100% of your sponsorship will go directly to positively impacting our community.

Due to your support, our community will be helped by the funds raised by this event. With your investment, we can help prevent another family from experiencing what KJ's and other families have had to endure.

Very truly yours,

**Shari Kennedy**

Volunteer Suicide Awareness Advocate

**Tracy D. Yaeger, PH.D**

President



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## Where does my Sponsorship Donation go?

### Basic Community Suicide Prevention/Awareness Training

Portage Path works with local companies to train their staff members on how to recognize common signs of mental illness, warning signs of suicide, and what to do when they suspect they see these signs. Suicide and attempts cost America more than \$1 billion annually and can cost individual businesses tens of thousands of dollars annually.

### The Portage Path Fund

This unrestricted fund allows Portage Path to serve 10,000 local people each year. Contributions to the Portage Path Fund allow us to conduct suicide prevention and awareness efforts, public education programs, professional development for staff, cover operating expenses, repairs, maintenance and equipment as needed to support the mission of Portage Path.

### Client Needs Fund

Most Portage Path clients live on less than \$800 per month. Donations of personal care items, winter clothing, gently used purses, new socks or the funds to purchase similar items can make a real difference to people in recovery. Other times, there are non-behavioral health related services that they cannot otherwise afford which can be covered by this fund in extraordinary circumstances.

### Creation and Distribution of Suicide Awareness and Prevention Materials

Design, printing, and distribution of suicide prevention literature, brochures, FAQs, a directory of resources, and other materials to let people know where and how to find help.

### KJ Hamblin Scholarship

Provides a \$500 scholarship annually to one student at Coventry High School who will be going to college in a field of study related to KJ's interests or mental health.

### Donation to Animal Charities

A portion of the proceeds are donated to Summit County Animal Control and Rubber City Rescue to help provide supplies, food, medicine and other resources for the care and adoption of animals in Summit County



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	PREMIUM \$3,500	STARTING/FINISH LINE \$2,500	REGISTRATION \$1,500	ROUTE \$500	COMMUNITY PARTNER \$250
LINK ON WEBSITE AND IN ANNUAL REPORT	Prominent logo on event page	logo	logo	logo	name
SIGNAGE	Prominent at event site	logo on start or finish line banner	logo on registration banner	logo on a mile marker or water stop	
SPONSOR-SPECIFIC SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS	2	1	1		
SPONSOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT IN EMAIL TO 200+ CONTACTS	1	1	1		
PLACEMENT ON EVENT FLYERS AND PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS	1	1	1		

Sponsor Level: \_\_\_\_\_ Sponsor Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Website \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

We plan to send giveaways for participants (400 to be prepared): Yes No

All sponsors are invited to bring a table, chairs, and tent. Do you plan to bring a table: Yes No

High Resolution Logos (vector Format preferred) should be submitted to [kjs5k@portagepath.org](mailto:kjs5k@portagepath.org)

Checks are to be made payable to **Portage Path Behavioral Health** and mailed before 9/1/2025 to:  
Portage Path Behavioral Health, Development Office, 340 South Broadway St, Akron, Ohio 44308

Or Donate online at <https://www.portagepath.org/support-our-mission/donate-online> and indicate 5k sponsor level in comments box.

Questions can be sent to our Marketing Team at 330-253-3100 or [kjs5k@portagepath.org](mailto:kjs5k@portagepath.org)