



Saturday, October 4, 2025

9 - 11 AM, Check in at 8 AM



Portage Lakes State Park

5031 Manchester Rd, Akron, OH
44319



[Event Page](#)



kjs5k@portagepath.org

Dear Community Partner:

We invite your company to sponsor the **9th Annual KJ's 5K for Mental Health & Animal Rescue**. The 5K will be held 8 -11 a.m. on Saturday, October 4, 2025, at [Portage Lakes State Park](#). Virtual participation in 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**. Over the last 23 years, the nationwide suicide rate has increased 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 suicide. 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. The 5K costs are covered by the entry fees so 100% of your sponsorship will go directly to positively impacting our community.

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

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?

92 cents of every dollar goes to treatment, prevention, and client support!

Basic Community Suicide Prevention/Awareness Training

Portage Path works with local companies to train their staff members 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 per year.

The Portage Path Fund

This unrestricted fund allows Portage Path to serve 9,000 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.

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

Checks must be mailed before September 15th and made payable to **Portage Path Behavioral Health**.

Address: Portage Path Behavioral Health, Development Office, 340 South Broadway St., Akron, Ohio 44308.

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

For more information, contact Joann Magestro, Development Consultant, at 330-253-3100 ext. 1234 or jmagestro@portagepath.org.



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Dear Community Partner:

In conjunction with National Suicide Prevention Month, Portage Path Behavioral Health is seeking donations for raffle baskets to support our 9th Annual KJ's 5K Mental Health & Animal Rescue to be held on Saturday, October 4, 2025, at Portage Lakes State Park. This is a great opportunity to highlight your company, your products, and services to the hundreds of 5K participants! Items for donation will be tickets, gift cards, and/or other merchandise.

KJ's 5K aims to stem the tide of the **suicide epidemic**. Over the last 23 years, the nationwide suicide rate has increased 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 suicide. Here in Summit County, the suicide rate stands at **17 per 100,000, or nearly 15% ABOVE the national average**.

The 5K's costs are covered by the entry fees so 100% of the proceeds raised by your raffle baskets will fund suicide prevention resources in Northeast Ohio.

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 endured.

Very truly yours,

Olivia Terranova


Marketing Assistant


oterranova@portagepath.org


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Dear Community Partner:

Thank you for sponsoring KJ's 5K for Mental Health and Animal Rescue. Your contribution to our 5K will help us provide quality suicide prevention and awareness tools like our community hotline, teaching our community about the signs of suicide, and so much more.

We invite you to send an item to put in our race packets. If you are interested, please mail or drop them off by **September 5, 2025**. You also have the opportunity to set up a table on the day of the race. Please provide your own table and displays. Email kjs5k@portagepath.org to let us know if you want to join us. Setup will start at 7:00 am on October 4, 2025.

We invite you to use the code "**KJSponsor25**" to get \$10 off registration. Using the code, your organization may sign up as a team to run/walk with us. We are giving multiple awards for teams this year including fastest, most team spirit, and most money raised. We look forward to seeing you and your team there.

If you have any questions, please contact our marketing team at kjs5k@portagepath.org.

Very truly yours,



Shari Kennedy

Volunteer Suicide Awareness Advocate



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