



SATURDAY OCTOBER 3, 2026
CHECK IN: 8 AM – RACE STARTS: 9 AM



PORTAGE LAKES STATE PARK
5031 Manchester Rd.
Akron OH, 44319

Dear Community Partner:

Portage Path Behavioral Health is excited to commemorate this special **10th anniversary** event for **KJ's 5k** For Mental Health & Animal Rescue! The event will be held from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 3, 2026, at Portage Lakes State Park. Virtual participation is also available nationwide throughout September in recognition of National Suicide Prevention Month.

KJ's 5K was established in memory of KJ, whose life was lost to suicide. What began as a way to honor his memory has grown into a community event that brings people together to support mental health awareness, suicide prevention, and local animal rescue organizations.

Suicide remains a serious public health crisis, claiming nearly **49,000 American lives** each year, or approximately **one life every 11 minutes**. Here in Summit County, the suicide rate is nearly 15% higher than the national average. Through **KJ's 5K**, Portage Path strives to raise awareness, reduce stigma, and support efforts that save lives.

The cost of the event is covered through participant registration fees, allowing 100% of sponsorship dollars to directly be used to support efforts towards suicide awareness and prevention. We invite you to review the sponsorship opportunities on the following pages and select a level that reflects your commitment to this important cause. Thank you for considering a partnership with Portage Path Behavioral Health, to help save lives and create a lasting impact in our community.

Very truly yours,

Shari L. Kennedy

Volunteer Suicide Awareness Advocate

Tracy D. Yaeger, Ph.D

President & CEO





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Where does my Sponsorship Donation go?

Every dollar goes to raise awareness, prevent suicides, and save lives!

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 crisis and mental health intervention to save lives, provide treatment and support the mission of Portage Path.

Creation and Distribution of Suicide Awareness and Prevention Materials

The materials are used to educate the community about suicide awareness and prevention through distribution of digital and printed resource guides that provide information on where and how to find help.

Support 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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	PRESENTING \$5,000	PREMIUM \$3,500	STARTING LINE/ FINISH LINE \$2,500	REGISTRATION \$1,500	ROUTE \$750	COMMUNITY PARTNER \$500
"PRESENTED BY" IN ALL PROMOTIONS/MARKETING	✓		Logo on Start/Finish line banner	Logo on Registration banner	Logo on Mile Marker or Water Stop	
LOGO IN 1 E-NEWSLETTER	✓	✓	✓			
LOGO IN 1 E-BLAST	✓	✓	✓	✓		
LOGO & HYPERLINK ON PPBH WEBSITE FOR 3 MONTHS	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
LOGO RECOGNITION IN SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Text Only
EVENT TICKETS INCLUDED	12	10	6	4	2	2
LOGO INCLUSION ON EVENT SIGNAGE	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Text Only

Sponsor Level _____ Sponsor Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Website _____

Email _____ Phone _____

We plan to provide free promotional items for participants (Up to 400 Pieces): Yes No

All sponsors should bring their own table, chairs, and tent if needed.

High resolution logos should be submitted to Daniele Boyer, Marketing Assistant at dboyer@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 Sponsorship 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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Donate A Raffle Basket

Help make the **10th Anniversary KJ's 5K** for Mental Health & Animal Rescue a success by donating a raffle basket, gift card, experience, merchandise, or service. Your donation will be featured as part of our event raffle, providing valuable exposure for your business while supporting an important community cause.

Thanks to the support of generous community partners, 100% of raffle proceeds directly fund suicide prevention and mental health awareness efforts throughout our community. Your contribution helps expand education, outreach, and resources that help SAVE LIVES.

 **SUGGESTED DONATION IDEAS** 

 Gift Cards	 Event Tickets	 Restaurant Experiences
 Spa & Wellness Packages	 Golf Packages	 Hotel Stays
 Local Merchandise & Products	 Themed Gift Baskets	 Professional Services

 **WHY DONATE?**

 Showcase your business to hundreds of participants	 Support mental health awareness and suicide prevention	 Support local animal rescue efforts	 Help make the 10th Annual KJ's 5K a success
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Donation Inquiries

Daniele Boyer

Marketing Assistant

dboyer@portagepath.org

Scan to Register
for In-Person and
Virtual Race →





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Thank you for sponsoring **KJ's 5K** for Mental Health & Animal Rescue. Your contribution to our 5K will help Portage Path Behavioral Health provide quality suicide prevention and awareness tools such as our 988 crisis hotline, educating 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, 2026**. You also have the opportunity to set up a table on the day of the race. Please provides your own table and displays. Email marketing@portagepath.org to let us know if you want to join us. Setup will start at 7:00 am on October 3, 2026.

We invite you to use the code "**KJSponsor26**" 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, largest, and most spirited team. We look forward to seeing you and your team there.

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

Very truly yours,

Shari L. Kennedy

Volunteer Suicide Awareness Advocate

Tracy D. Yaeger, Ph.D

President

