



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **TMI Project announces first-ever fundraising race: Run FOR the Truth**

**Kingston, NY** – TMI Project is proud to announce its first-ever fundraising race: [Run FOR the Truth](#). The race will be held virtually on Sunday, September 26, 2021. Anyone can sign up via the RunSignUp platform and run or walk the 5K route of their choice any time that day. All registrants submit their own time results based on the honor system. TMI Project aims to raise \$10k to support the creation of radically true stories for Racial Justice, Gender Equality, LGBTQIA+ rights, Mental Health Awareness.

TMI Project acknowledges that running/walking is a privilege. Many people do not feel safe walking/running on their own because of race, gender, and/or sexual orientation. Originally, TMI Project planned a community walk/run and follow-up gathering accessible to all, but due to the increase in COVID numbers, we have decided to hold off on in-person components until next year. They encourage those interested in learning more to tune in to *Inside Black Stories Matter: Running While Black (and Caring for the Black Body)* featuring runner and activist Alison Mariella Désir on September 13 at 7 PM EST on Zoom.

“In 2020, a simple morning jog for Ahmaud Arbury led to his murder, a heartbreaking reminder of the long timeline of terror and violent actions inflicted on black bodies reaching back over two centuries,” said Dara Lurie, co-leader of TMI Project’s Black Stories Matter program. “ I see Running while Black as part of a centuries-old story, of Black people struggling to live freely in their bodies. To experience sovereignty of one’s body, which requires safety, so that we are able to fully engage in that communion of our hearts, lungs, legs, and arms; so that we can finally step away from the fear that keeps us small, quiet, and in pain.”

Board member, Michael Raimondi says, “As an avid supporter of TMI Project’s urgent and necessary work, and as a member of the LGBTQIA+ running club Front Runners, Run FOR the Truth is especially exciting for me. I look forward to helping TMI Project further their mission to change the world one radically true story at a time, and I hope my fellow runners, walkers, and movers will join me!”

Competition is not the focus of this race. It’s intentionally designed to be all-inclusive. However, for those who wish to give it their all, there will be some stiff competition. 13-time winner and course record holder at the Escarpment Trail Race Ben Nephew plans to Run FOR the Truth. He has PRs of 3:10 for 50k and 5:47 for 50 miles and holds the previous #1 record for the Adirondack Great Range Traverse, the Devil’s Path in the Catskills, and the Pemigewasset Loop in the White Mountains. Ben is a long-time supporter of TMI Project and is currently participating in his first TMI Project workshop at Worcester Polytechnic Institute. “I’m running for the truth because as



someone who studies discrimination and mental health, I have a strong understanding of the adverse impacts of discrimination on individuals, families, and future generations,” Nephew said. “I have seen, as an audience member and participant, how effective TMI Project workshops and performances are at bringing light to discrimination-related topics that need greater attention.”

“It is time to stop running *from* the truth and start running *for* the truth,” said co-founder and executive director, Eva Tenuto. “This county has been running from the truth since its inception. Whenever we run from our past it continues to chase us down. That’s true for the individual, a community, and our nation. We’re calling people to stop running from and run *for* the truth -- to take bold action to support radical truth-telling. We believe it’s how we’ll all be set free.”

**TMI Project** is a nonprofit based in Kingston, NY. Our mission is to help craft and amplify radically true stories to ignite human connection, challenge the status quo, and inspire both storytellers and listeners to take action for positive social change.

Since 2010, TMI Project has led more than 100 true storytelling workshops and staged live storytelling performances by nearly 2,000 storytellers, which have been presented to audiences of over 100,000 people in schools, colleges, prisons, mental health clinics, theaters, community centers, the United Nations, and online.

#### **FOR MORE INFO**

Visit [www.tmiproject.org](http://www.tmiproject.org).

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