



Fetal Hope Foundation  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**RACE FOR FETAL HOPE TO HOST POST-RACE EXPO AND FAMILY FESTIVAL GEARED AT CELEBRATING FAMILY**

**Charlotte, NC, September 14, 2009** – Widely known for its 5k walk/run and unique stroller division, the Race for Fetal Hope is also known for its time of celebration with its Sponsor Expo and Family Festival. Part of a National Race Series, the Charlotte Race for Fetal Hope will be held on Saturday, September 19<sup>th</sup> at Independence Park with a kick-off time of 8:00am.

New to the Charlotte event will be the Survivor Ceremony which will feature a brief presentation by the local Women’s Institute that will plan to begin fetal surgery later this year, many local survivors of fetal syndromes, as well as a host family travelling from Delaware to share their journey of loss. There will also be Signs of Hope lining each side of the Finish Line to honor and celebrate both survivors and angels lost.

“We are very excited about the Survivor Ceremony, as it will be one more way to distinguish our event as separate from every other 5k event. The Race for Fetal Hope provides families the opportunity to connect with others who have shared similar experiences, but especially those who have a concrete way of honoring the babies they may have lost over the years,” said Talitha McGuinness, Fetal Hope VP of Marketing and Fundraising and Charlotte Race Director. “The ceremony will be very emotional, but very realistic to the vast numbers and ways fetal syndromes affect people all around the world.”

The Sponsor Expo and Family Festival will feature many activities for children, including a bounce house, local characters such as Lug Nut and Ronald McDonald, carnival games and refreshments such as ice cream, shaved ice, doughnuts, and cotton candy. Lunch will be provided by Carrabba’s in the Hospitality Tent and Nothing but Noodles for general race participants. The event will conclude with the awards ceremony and a live band that will begin at approximately 10am.

All proceeds of the event will benefit the Fetal Hope Foundation, a national non-profit organization with a mission of providing support and information, funding research, increasing awareness and serving as an outlet for leading medical information pertaining to fetal distresses and syndromes. For more information on the Charlotte Race for Fetal Hope, please contact Charlotte Event Director, Talitha McGuinness at 980-721-5799, [talitha@fetalhope.org](mailto:talitha@fetalhope.org), or visit [www.raceforfetalhope.org](http://www.raceforfetalhope.org).

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