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FOURTH CHARITY NAMED TO ALIGN WITH THE 2016 GAZELLE GIRL HALF MARATHON & 5K
The Gazelle Sports Foundation joins the three Legacy Charity Partners

GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN – Gazelle Sports has announced that the Gazelle Sports Foundation will join Grand Rapids Opportunities for Women (GROW), Kent County Girls on the Run and the YWCA of West Central Michigan as the newest charity affiliated with the Gazelle Girl Half Marathon & 5k. Last year, \$90,000 was raised through the event, bringing the three year total to more than \$175,000.

“Including the Gazelle Sports Foundation as a beneficiary of the 2016 Gazelle Girl Half Marathon & 5k aligns with the event’s mission of connecting people through movement, achievement and celebration,” says Chris Lampen-Crowell, co-owner of Gazelle Sports. “At Gazelle Sports, we understand that all people desire health and wellness. Through the Gazelle Sports Foundation, we are excited to be able to invest needed resources that will reduce substantial barriers existing for more people that wish to begin and maintain an active lifestyle.”

The Gazelle Sports Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization that supports individuals and organizations that implement education, programs and activities involving movement and fitness. The focus of grants is groups that have barriers toward integrating fitness in their lives, prioritizing grants that include lower income individuals and families. In 2015, the Gazelle Sports Foundation granted \$5,000 to Pathways, MI and \$5,000 to the Down Syndrome Association of West Michigan. Grants are limited to the geographic areas in which Gazelle Sports operates including Kalamazoo, Kent, Ottawa and Wayne counties. The Foundation receives 2% of Gazelle Sports’ profits annually. For more information, please visit <http://www.gazellesportsfoundation.org>.

The fourth annual Gazelle Girl Half Marathon & 5k will start and finish at Calder Plaza in downtown Grand Rapids on Sunday, April 17. The next Gazelle Girl MeetUp will feature the four event-affiliated charities on Wednesday, December 3 at the Gazelle Girl Shop & Charity Hop, taking place at Gazelle Sports-Grand Rapids (3930 28th Street SE) from 6-9p. 10% of the evening’s shopping proceeds will be split evenly among the charities who will all be available to network and answer questions about their organizations with attendees.

About the Event

The Gazelle Girl Half Marathon & 5k began in 2013 as the first women’s only half marathon event in Michigan and remains one of the largest events of its kind in the state. Organized by Gazelle Sports, Gazelle Girl connects women through movement, achievement, celebration, friendship and fun. Proceeds from the event will benefit the Gazelle Sports Foundation, Grand Rapids Opportunities for Women (GROW), Kent County Girls on the Run and the YWCA of West Central Michigan. For information and event registration, please visit <http://gazellegirlhalfmarathon.com/>.

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