

Steppingstone, Inc.

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Press Release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE
RELEASE**

9 AM EDT, June 3, 2019

17th ANNUAL 5K WALK FOR THE HOMELESS

(Fall River, MA) – On Saturday, August 10, 2019, Steppingstone, Inc. will sponsor its annual *Get Steppin' 5K Walk*. The event kicks off at 9:00am from the parking lot of the First Step Inn's new shelter location at 134 Durfee Street and will follow the beautiful waterfront at Heritage Park and return to the Durfee street location for pizza, prizes and fun.

The annual event raises money for the First Step Inn, Fall River's Homeless Shelter operated by Steppingstone, Inc. The funds raised help to provide the homeless with educational opportunities, counseling, healthy, warm meals and shelter and other services aimed at keeping them clean, sober and safe.

"Once again we ask the community to reach out and help us in providing treatment, educational and vocational opportunities to the homeless citizens of the City of Fall River", said Kathleen Schedler-Clark, Executive Director of Steppingstone, Inc. "The funds that we raise in our walk go directly into the operations of our shelter and helps those in need find the treatment or services that will assist them in becoming contributing members of our society once again. The funds will also helps us keep our doors open 24 hours per day during the cold winter months and we see this year shelter everyone in need. We are very proud to finally be able to do that in our new location."

Rosa Medeiros, Director of Homeless Services, has been working with those experiencing homelessness since 1997 and knows this effort is very important because funding sources come and go, but the need is always present. "We believe that anyone can overcome any situation in their lives, as long as they have encouragement support and guidance to reaching goals to get there. I have seen individuals who have come in from the street with no food or clothes, no goals and no hope only to see them walk out several months later with a job, healthcare and an attitude that they can once again become functioning members of our society. I hope many show up to support the shelter and have a part in helping someone get a home of their own."

Walk organizers continue to seek individuals, teams and sponsors for this event. Anyone interested in helping or participating in this year's event can contact Joan Warren at 508-567-5086 ext. 316. Additional information can be obtained by visiting our website at www.steppingstoneinc.org.