

## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60601

ROD R. BLAGOJEVICH GOVERNOR

June 12, 2006

Ms. Beth Onines Illinois Runs Training Programs

Dear Ms. Onines:

As Governor of the State of Illinois, I am pleased to offer you my support and encouragement for Illinois Runs Training Programs. Illinois Runs is an all-encompassing program in which you can lean on others, but also succeed on your own. I have been told of your great commitment to the running community over the years, which should further enhance the success of your training program.

The benefits of maintaining a healthy lifestyle, both in body and mind, cannot be overstated. One of my top priorities as Governor over the past three years has been working to improve the physical well-being of Illinoisans. As a person who shares your passion for running, I feel that there is no better way to stay healthy and to truly "get the most out of life."

These programs are a wonderful opportunity to help challenge runners of all skill levels in the Chicagoland area to reach their fullest potential, and constantly strive to achieve their goals. From my own personal experiences, finishing a marathon is an amazing feeling, especially after the months of training. I can offer nothing but positive encouragement for any person who starts on this great journey and many thanks to those people that put them safely on their way to living healthier and striving to be better.

Best of luck to Illinois Runs and all of its participants. I look forward to hearing of your challenges and successes.

Sincerely,

Rod R. Blagojevich

Governor