



Injured Marine Semper Fi Fund
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MEDIA ADVISORY

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Runners hit the pavement for injured service members at the Long Beach Marathon!

Long Beach, CA – Runners from all over California will take part in “California’s original and most scenic marathon” Sunday, and raise money and awareness for wounded Marines while they are at it.

Semper Fi Fund will have 25 Community Athletes running and raising money on its behalf as well as a 16-members from the Fund’s Team Semper Fi taking part in the event. Semper Fi Fund hopes to reach their goal of raising \$5,000 through the Long Beach Marathon by asking its Community Athletes to fundraise a minimum of \$200 each.

The Long Beach International Marathon and Half Marathon features the Injured Marines Semper Fi Fund as a Charity Partner for the first time. The event consists of a marathon, a half marathon, a 5K and a 26.2 mile bike tour.

Semper Fi Fund will also host a booth at the Long Beach Marathon Expo on Friday, Oct. 7 and Saturday, Oct. 8. On race day, the Semper Fi Fund will have a tent for runners crossing the finish line.

Please consider covering Semper Fi Fund’s participation in the Long Beach International Marathon and Half Marathon

- **What:** The Long Beach International Marathon and Half Marathon
- **When:** October 9, 2011 from 7 a.m. to noon
- **Where:** Shoreline Drive, Long Beach, CA
- **Web:** <http://semperfund.org/updates/support-through-sport-the-long-beach-marathon/>

About the Semper Fi Fund (SFF): (www.semperfund.org) is a non-profit organization that provides financial assistance and quality of life solutions for Marines and Sailors, as well as members of the Army, Air Force and Coast Guard who serve in support of Marine forces, when they become injured in post 9-11 combat or training operations, or they face life threatening illness or injury. Our fund provides relief to qualified Servicemembers and their families for immediate financial needs that arise during hospitalization and recovery, as well as perpetuating needs such as home modifications, customized transportation and specialized equipment.

The SFF was founded by Karen Guenther, a registered nurse and spouse of an active duty Marine who had first-hand knowledge of the challenges faced by wounded Marines and Sailors returning from Iraq and Afghanistan. She, along with a dedicated group of military spouses established Injured Marine Semper Fi Fund in May of 2004.

SFF has awarded over 34,000 financial grants totaling more than \$54 million in grants given to our injured and ill service members and their families.

About Team Semper Fi (TSF): Team Semper Fi www.semperfund.org/team-semper-fi/ is an athletic sports team made up of more than 270 injured service members who compete in athletic events across the country. With their motto “Recovery Through Sport” Team Semper Fi is a rehabilitative sports program offered by the Semper Fi Fund. The team is made up of servicemen and women who have overcome significant challenges and refused to let their injuries prevent them from competing in athletic events.