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**Alicia Gonzalez honored with President's Council on Fitness, Sports & Nutrition
Community Leadership Award**

(Chicago, IL)—The President's Council on Fitness, Sports & Nutrition has selected Alicia Gonzalez, the Founding Executive Director of Chicago Run, to receive a 2016 President's Council on Fitness, Sports & Nutrition Community Leadership Award. The award is given annually to individuals or organizations who improve the lives of others within their community by providing or enhancing opportunities to engage in sports, physical activities, fitness, and nutrition-related programs.

Gonzalez was selected for her tireless efforts in utilizing sports-based development to promote health and well-being initiatives in the community. Since helping launch Chicago Run as the first staff member in 2008, Gonzalez has built and led the organization to its current size of serving over 17,000 students in 46 Chicago Public Schools in 32 neighborhoods across the city – a 750% program participant growth and a 500% budget increase from the organization's inception.

"Alicia and her team at Chicago Run have worked to consistently promote opportunities for individuals to lead healthy lifestyles through physical activity and/or healthy nutrition," says Shellie Pfohl, Executive Director of the Office of the President's Council on Fitness, Sports & Nutrition. "Because of Alicia's efforts and contributions, the community served by Chicago Run can embrace a more active lifestyle. Together, we are all working to make our nation a healthier one by helping individuals across the nation live vibrant, vivacious, and productive lives."

"We are absolutely thrilled that the President's Council has chosen Alicia as a Community Leadership recipient this year," adds Dr. Bryan Traubert, Chicago Run's Co-Founder and Chairman Emeritus. "This award is a testament to the passion and determination that Alicia has displayed throughout her career for creating sustainable programs and initiatives to address the systemic health and wellness issues that are plaguing our communities."

This year, in honor of its 60th Anniversary, the President's Council on Fitness, Sports & Nutrition presented the Community Leadership Award to 60 recipients across the country for making sports, physical activity, fitness, and nutrition-related programs available in their communities.

About the President's Council on Fitness, Sports and Nutrition

The President's Council on Fitness, Sports & Nutrition (President's Council) educates, engages and empowers Americans to adopt a healthy lifestyle that includes regular physical activity and good nutrition. The President's Council is composed of up to 25 volunteer citizens, including athletes, chefs, physicians, fitness and nutrition professionals, and physical educators, who are appointed by the President and serve in an advisory capacity through the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS). The President's Council is co-chaired by NFL quarterback Drew Brees and Olympic gymnast Dominique Dawes. The President's Council also develops strategic partnerships to promote programs and initiatives that motivate people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities to lead healthy, active lifestyles. For more information, please visit the website: www.fitness.gov and follow the President's Council on Twitter @FitnessGov.

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