

Somerville 5K “Detour” Road Race

SUNDAY, October 6, 2019

Millbrook Drive/Arlington High School Parking Lot

Somerville Homeless Coalition

1 Davis Square

Somerville, MA 02144

www.shcinc.org

The Somerville Homeless Coalition (SHC) has held the **Somerville 5K Road Race** for the past 23 years. All the proceeds from this event directly support SHC’s programs, resources and services that benefit homeless and nearly homeless families and individuals primarily from Somerville **and Arlington**; last year we served over 3,000 people. Despite our name, SHC not only serves the homeless and those experiencing housing insecurity in Somerville, but we also provide for the needs of many people struggling in **Arlington**. SHC currently leases and/or provides home-based supportive services to disabled and formerly homeless families and individuals living in 27 scattered apartment units throughout Arlington. Most recently, we have been working closely with the Town of Arlington’s Health and Human Services Department, Arlington Police Department and the Housing Corporation of Arlington on implementing the Rapid Transition of Homeless Individuals (RTHI) state grant designed to house the unsheltered staying in the Alewife/Thorndike/Mugar Woods area. Also, SHC is a member of the Arlington Human Service Network, Arlington Homelessness Task Force and the Somerville-Arlington HUD Continuum of Care group. SHC also provides weekly street outreach to areas in Arlington in collaboration with the Arlington Police Department as part of the regional Multi Disciplinary Outreach Team (MDOT).

Traditionally, the Somerville 5K has taken place in and around Somerville’s Davis Square area. However, due to long-term bridge closures and other major traffic detours throughout the city because of the Green Line Extension Project (GLX), SHC is unable to locate and operate an appropriate and safe route within Somerville city limits in 2019 for the Somerville 5K.

We are requesting that the Town of Arlington permit SHC to hold its **24th Annual Somerville 5K “Detour” Road Race in Arlington on Sunday, October 6, 2019**. We are proposing to use the same road race route that the Cause + Event Road Race utilizes. This route begins in the parking lot behind the Arlington High School and utilizes Millbrook Drive, Mill Street, Mass. Ave, Lowell Street, Bow Street and the Minuteman Community Path.

The planned **race start time is 9:00 AM** and will begin on Millbrook Drive. SHC begins setting up in the AHS parking lot around 6:00 AM. A company sets up a 20' x 30' canopy tent; this is utilized for registration and a small brunch following the race. We also will utilize a company to provide approximately eight (8) Port-a-Potties; these will be delivered on Saturday, October 5th or very early Sunday morning, October 6th. We have a road race timing company set-up a start/finish line (Spitler Race Systems). We have a small PA system utilized to make announcements and play music. We also request support from the Arlington DPW for proper use of trash/recycling receptacles and to pick-up those items following the conclusion of the activities. We also request access to any power source that is outside to operate our PA system and for the race timing company. Typically, all clean-up concludes by 12 noon, the canopy tent is removed and we make arrangements for the Port-A-Potties to be picked up. (We will need guidance and assistance on where best to place the Port-A-Potties.) We will also need police details to ensure safe running routes on the streets and to make sure that the Minuteman Community Path is available to accommodate all the runners safely. On Monday, August 5th, SHC, Select Board Administrator, Marie Krepelka, and two Arlington Police Department representatives, Lt. Rick Pedrini and Traffic Safety Office Corey Rateau met to discuss the police details and other aspects of the race.

In the past we have had between 750-950 runners. Since this is a new site/route we are unsure of how many runners will participate this year; it may be less.

SHC is also requesting to put **'sandwich boards'** in the following areas: **in front of Town Hall; near Medford St./Chestnut St.; and, at the Pleasant Street intersection.** These boards will serve to publicize the Road Race so that community members are aware of this event and have an opportunity to participate and have a fun morning with their family/friends.

We greatly appreciate the opportunity to propose holding our Somerville 5K "Detour" Road Race in Arlington. This is one of our largest fundraisers of the year and is vital to helping us continue to provide vital safety-net services to the Arlington and Somerville communities.

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