

COMRADES Chat

2025 Edition



Community Chest



DEAR VALUED SUPPORTER

We Did It! A Million Rand Milestone from Comrades 2025. Thanks to your belief, support, and commitment, we are thrilled to announce that through the Comrades Race4Charity campaign, we raised an incredible R1 000 754. This is a testament to a community working together to impact the lives of KZN children under the age of five.

This year, our Superhero runners were nothing short of extraordinary. Leading the charge once again was the inspirational Mahesh Ratanjee, who appears set to take the crown of overall top fundraiser for the second consecutive year with a jaw-dropping R320 000 raised.

We connected with thousands of runners and supporters at the Comrades Expo in Pietermaritzburg and Durban, generating R243 000 in sales.

A special highlight this year was our involvement in the Toyota Win-A-Car Competition, which brought in a meaningful R105 000 - a welcome boost to our efforts.

To round off this remarkable season, we came together on Saturday, 12 July, at our offices for a Runners' Appreciation Event. Surrounded by our runners, volunteers, supporters, and friends, we didn't just reflect...we celebrated. We honoured every drop of sweat, every act of kindness, and every contribution that helped us cross the R1 million finish line.

Thank you for running with us, cheering for us, donating, volunteering, selling, believing, and being part of something much bigger than an ultra marathon.



THANK YOU TO OUR SUPERHEROES

Mahesh Ratanjee
Tanya Cohen
Marc Cohen
Fiona Braithwaite
Marybelle Ferreira
David Masondo
Deepak Ramachandran
Sydwell Shikweni
Thandi Senoamali
Leon Mudaly
Bongani James Manana
Scott Macmillan
Thabo Ephraim Moeketsi
Zilma Rodrigues da Silva

Sara Mahomed
Jurie Bester
Songe Chisi
Suzanne Breevaart
Dieketseng Makhetha
Sharif Quiblier
Stian Saur
NgobaniJohnstone Makhubu
Vinay Iakhraj
Mxolisi Mkhize
Busie Xulu
Ruwen Pillay
Grace Redden

Fiona Reardon
Jock Ferguson
Amisha Lahidas
Marc Matinise
Jain Reid
David Williams
Sibonelo Mashimane
Elsa De Bod
Ngqabesizwe Zulu
Thembela Ngcengi
Tersia Odendaal
Charles Johnson
Lutfiyya Adam
Roger Comish

Shesha Msweli
Catherine Tshivhasa
Tulani Madavhu
Kgoloko Maripane
Simphiwe Geeba
Ratholo Matlala
Mangoba Msomi
Saziso Mzila
Avhashoni Maraga
Polelo Maduwa
Rathing Motloung
Mankwana Mmola
Mxolisi Mhlongo
Sabelo Buqa

Richard Harrison
Thembinkosi Simelane
Nkosithandile Mvelase
Yagavasen Govender
Scele Thusi
Musawenkosi Mtshali
Thulani Gumedede
Celumusa Mavundla
Simon Nngwenya
Paul Whitehead
Nato Amaral



ACCOMMODATION FOR RUNNERS

The YMCA Runners Village, proudly sponsored by GEMS, is a Comrades Marathon Association initiative to care for their assisted Runners by giving them a place to sleep, hot showers, warm meals, and transport to and from the start and finish at no cost. Community Chest hosts the Runners on behalf of CMA. The Precious Team is always applauded by the Runners for the hospitality they provide. This year, one of the Runners said, "This is a hotel experience," and another commented, "It's home away from home."



COMMUNITY CHEST'S REFRESHMENT STATIONS

Every year from January to December, Community Chest staff and volunteers help out at refreshment stations throughout KZN. We have a reputation for being spirited!

Some volunteers go as far as running a number of kilometres with our runners to ensure our Superheroes achieve their PB!



To support runners and running clubs, the Community Chest has a team of volunteers, who throughout the year, join runners by waking up ridiculously early to host refreshment stations. We thank each of these passionate volunteers who support us and the running community.

Refreshment stations hosted include:

- 26 Jan - Revive PDAC 25km
- 23 Feb - KZN Capital City Marathon
- 16 March - Balwin Properties Marathon
- 18 May - Stella Royal with Discovery Vitality
- 8 June - Comrades Marathon
- 20 July - Amashova Cycle race
- 26 Oct - Sapphire Coast Marathon
- 2 Nov - SA Homeloans DHS Oldies
- 14 Dec - Westville Athletic Club Illovo Christmas run

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

- Ben Myburgh
- Capital Caterers
- Capital Newspapers
- Desai's Meats
- Glen Arum Farm
- Joey's Towing Services
- Jolly Meats
- Liberty Midlands Mall
- Maureen McDonald
- Orange Grove Dairy
- Panbake
- Ricardo Fresh Produce
- Road Accident Fund
- Romilla Chetty
- Sirkhot's butcher
- Sunshine Bakery
- Toyota
- Watercrest Mall
- Windermere Centre



COMRADES EXPO DURBAN AND PMB

It was a bustling three days with runners looking for our ever-popular and essential 'warm up tops' and Dri-fit talking tee's. Once again, both these products topped our 'best-sellers list' and we completely sold out. Another popular seller was our premium Superhero socks, and we boasted record sales with the iconic Amabeadi beadi necklaces, beanies, and bucket hats. The expo was a wonderful opportunity for us to meet our Superhero runners and wish them well ahead of their 89.98 km run.

Thanks to Comrades' sponsor Toyota, we sold 2 103 'Win a Car' raffle tickets at R50 each. Pat Savage from JHB was the lucky winner of the amazing Toyota Cross.



SUPERHEROES AT OUR REFRESHMENT STATION

On Sunday, 8 June, as runners took on the grueling challenge between Durban and Pietermaritzburg, more than 70 volunteers stood proudly at our refreshment station, offering support, smiles, and energy.

This wasn't just about water or bananas - it was about community, compassion, and purpose in action. Like our Superhero runners, our passionate volunteers get involved for the 7 845 children we support through ECD.



SUPERHEROES THANK YOU EVENT

On Saturday, 12 July Superhero runners, volunteers, staff and Comrades Marathon Association members joined us to celebrate the R1million Race4Charity milestone.

The party started in the car park and continued throughout the afternoon with speeches, videos, the awarding of certificates, snacks, and a fun photo session.

