Frequently Asked Questions

Do I have to be 21 years or older to attend the event?

Yes - only individuals aged 21 or older may attend the event.

Who can take part in the run?

Aside from being at least 21 years old, anyone can participate regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity and expression. All LGBTQ+ community members and allies are welcome at this event.

Do I have to wear a speedo?

Don't let the name hinder or intimidate you - just be comfortable, and be you! Runners have worn bathing suits of all kinds, long johns, onesies, and beyond.

Where does the money I raise go, and how is it used?

Funds raised at the Santa Speedo Run support the array of programs and services that Center on Halsted delivers to the LGBTQ+ community of Chicagoland, including: Behavioral Health, Community & Cultural programming, Cyber Center technology access, HIV Testing & Prevention, Senior Services, Silver Fork culinary workforce development, Youth Programming and more.

Can I make a donation without running?

Absolutely. You can donate by clicking on the "Donate Now" button in the upper-right hand corner of the page. You can decide whether to donate to an individual, a team, or to the event overall.

I'm not sure how to fundraise - can you help?

We're here to support you every step of the way. We encourage you to make a list of your friends, colleagues, family members, or other loved ones who you think could be supportive of your run. Even if you're unsure, the holidays are a time when people are motivated to support good causes - so just like with Santa - it starts with a simple ask. You are welcome to direct questions to us at: santaspeedorun@centeronhalsted.org

How long is the run?

The run is 1 mile, and you are welcome to walk or run at your own pace. Just remember to stay on sidewalks and stop for cars/bicycles at intersections. We do not close off the streets for our event - so safety first!

What is the schedule for Saturday, 12/5?

Sidetrack's doors will open at 12PM and this is when check-in and entry will begin. The run is scheduled for 2PM. A brief program and auction will take place afterwards, then the fun continues at Sidetrack into the night!