

Annual Pat's Run Supports Tillman Scholars for its 21st Year

Written by Mallory Gleich

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On April 12, more than 25,000 runners and walkers filled the streets of Tempe for the 21st Annual Pat's Run. The event honored the legacy of Pat Tillman, the former Arizona State University and NFL football player who left a promising career to serve in the military. This year's run supported the Tillman Scholars who carry forward his values of Scholarship, Humble Leadership, Service, and Impact.

The signature 4.2-mile race concluded on the 42-yard line of Mountain America Stadium, home to the ASU Sun Devils - a meaningful tribute to Tillman's jersey number during his time as a Sun Devil. In addition to the thousands who participated in person, over 2,000 runners from across the globe joined the race virtually. The ASU Alumni Association also organized more than 30 Honor Runs nationwide, bringing together communities coast to coast in tribute to Tillman's memory.



The day was filled with energy, pride, and community spirit. Arizona State University's head football coach, Kenny Dillingham - named the 2024 Big 12 Football Coach of the Year - served as the official race starter, kicking off the day's events.

Over 150 ASU football players took part in the .42-mile Kids Run, inspiring young participants and celebrating the next generation of leaders. A new addition was the debut of the Tillman Tailgate, a festive post-race celebration featuring live music, food trucks, and a variety of vendor activations.

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A total of 1,200 volunteers contributed their time and energy, donating over 8,000 hours to ensure the event's success. To keep participants hydrated, 15,000 bags of ice were distributed throughout the day. All proceeds benefit the Pat Tillman Foundation's Tillman Scholar program. This initiative empowers military veterans and their spouses through academic scholarships, leadership development, and a supportive, global community.

Since its inception, the foundation has raised \$37 million, supporting 931 Tillman Scholars at more than 150 universities across the country. These scholars are driving change in diverse fields such as medicine, law, and business. To learn more, visit www.PTF.org.