

The Virgin Islands Consortium

36th Annual Women's Coalition Women Race Goes Virtual

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The Women's Coalition of St. Croix (WCSC) has announced that the 2020 Women Race — the 36th annul — will be virtual this year, with women and girls registering online, completing their two miles wherever they are, and posting their time online, during the week of August 23 through the 30.

“This year you have a whole week to complete the race, so it can be done with less stress, but at the same time show your support for crime victims and survivors. You can still do it with family and friends, but this time they can be anywhere and join you. The Women Race tradition must continue, despite the challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic,” said Clema Lewis, WCSC's executive director.

Registration is online only, starting on August 23. Participants have one week to complete two miles—running, walking, jogging—any form of movement, and post their time online. “Participants with their little ones in strollers can still register. We want our future ‘Women Racers’ to be a part of this fun event too,” noted Carolyn Forno, WCSC’s assistant director.

The annual Women Race is always a special event, especially for victims and survivors of violence. Many continue to participate annually, to show their strength, progress and healing from the trauma of domestic abuse, sexual assault and other crimes.

“Wear your favorite t-shirt and make a video to share with friends on social media. Encourage them to join up as a group. We’re looking for all of those who would show their support from the sidelines, on the streets of Christiansted and Frederiksted, to take to their devices and cheer on the ‘Women Racers’ virtually this year, too!”, said Debra Benjamin, WCSC’s communications coordinator.

The link to the Virtual Women Race online registration page will be shared on all of WCSC’s channels closer to the week of the Race. The registration entry fee is \$20.00. “We know that these are challenging times financially for many people, so we have included a discounted fee option of \$10.00, for those who cannot afford the standard registration fee,” noted Lavonne Wise, WCSC’s Fundraising Coordinator. “Girls aged 13 and under can still register for \$1.00, as well.”

Organizations, groups and businesses may enter teams in the Women Race, but each member must register online individually and include the team name on the form. The fastest team (minimum of five members) will receive special recognition. The overall first, second and third place winners and top age-group finishers in several categories will also be recognized.

WCSC said its mission is to support and empower people impacted by violence. Contact WCSC for more information at (340)773-9272, or visit WCSC’s website, wcstx.org, for more information on the Women Race and no-cost advocacy, programs and services for victims survivors of violence.