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WOMEN'S CENTER OF GREATER LANSING PARTNERS WITH CAPITAL CITY DRAGON BOAT RACE Event Takes Hiatus in 2013 to Prepare For 2014

LANSING, MICH. (July 15, 2013) – In an exciting new partnership, the Women's Center of Greater Lansing will become the new governing body of the Capital City Dragon Boat Race, effective for the 2014 race. The CCDBR was created and operated through the hard work and dedication of community volunteers since its inception in 2011. By joining forces with the Women's Center of Greater Lansing, the CCDBR will be able to grow into a signature event for the Greater Lansing community, attracting local teams, as well as welcoming travel teams to the region.

The **Women's Center of Greater Lansing**, located at 1710-1712 East Michigan Ave in Lansing, MI, is a private non-profit organization that provides services to women in the Lansing area. Since its doors opened in 2005, the Women's Center has served more than 3,400 women. The Women's Center is dedicated to helping women realize their potential, support each other, achieve economic self-sufficiency, and develop emotional and physical wellbeing, regardless of income level. To read personal experiences of women helped by the Center, please visit <u>www.WomensCenterofGreaterLansing.org</u>. Services that the Women's Center provides include career counseling and resume preparation, individual counseling, and a wide variety of support groups and workshops, including cancer support.

Since 2011, the **Capital City Dragon Boat Race** has attracted close to 600 athletes, in teams of 20-25 paddlers, to the banks of the Grand River in downtown Lansing, racing in 40-foot long, 'flag-catcher' style dragon boats provided by the **American Dragon Boat Association**. There will not be a 2013 race, allowing this new partnership an opportunity to develop plans for the 2014 race, with the intent of providing an expanded experience for both the teams, and for the spectators that come to cheer for them. Contact with current local teams will be maintained to prepare for the 2014 race, as well as to provide information about other dragon boating opportunities in the region. Please visit <u>www.CapitalCityDragonBoat.com</u> for updated information.

The Greater Lansing Sports Authority will continue to provide crucial support to the Capital City Dragon Boat Race. And Mid-MEAC will be welcomed as a returning partner, emphasizing river protection, green transportation, land use and sustainability. Proceeds from the 2014 Capital City Dragon Boat Race, will support the programs of the Women's Center of Greater Lansing, helping women realize their potential. "By partnering with the Women's Center of Greater Lansing, we look forward to the growth of CAPITAL CITY DRAGON BOAT RACE to become one of the premier dragon boat races in the Midwest," said Mike Price, Executive Director of the Greater Lansing Sports Authority.