

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

September 16, 2008

Team Heal Trauma  
C/O Witness Justice  
P.O. Box 475  
Frederick, MD 21705-0475

To the Committed Runners of Team Heal Trauma:

We live in complex and often dangerous times. Every day Americans are impacted by violence and other traumatic occurrences like war and natural disasters. As a district attorney and judge, I learned first-hand the devastation that violence can have on individuals, families and communities. It became my mission to bring justice to victims of crime and to improve the support network that affects all trauma survivors. As a Congressman, I have taken that mission to the next level: supporting measures to raise awareness and end violence.

As founder and co-chair of the bipartisan Congressional Victim's Rights Caucus, I have focused a large portion of my legislative agenda on advocating for victims of crime, as well as introducing and protecting legislation that promotes justice for survivors and their families. My bipartisan colleagues and I are well aware that psychological trauma is a public health crisis in the United States, and we work tirelessly to make sure that survivors have the benefit and support of trauma-informed care to promote healing.

I applaud your efforts to raise awareness about the pervasiveness and impact of trauma, and I would like to commend and support Team Heal Trauma as you prepare to participate in the 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Marine Corps Marathon and the second Team Heal Trauma run. As a Charity Partner, your commitment to raising awareness about psychological trauma, your determination in promoting trauma-informed care, and your efforts to address gaps in services experienced by victims and their families is fostering the kind of change that has a direct and positive impact on the welfare of millions of Americans.

God and Texas,



TED POE  
Member of Congress  
TEXAS