



# 26.2 Step Mini Marathon

PRESS FACT SHEET · AWARENESS. EMPOWERMENT. ACTION.

The 26.2 Step Mini Marathon is an Omaha-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit (in formation) that raises awareness of hereditary cancer risk and removes barriers to education and genetic testing. Founded in 2016, it invites people to take **26.2 steps — not miles** — in honor of someone affected by cancer, so anyone can take part regardless of ability.

## QUICK FACTS

- **Founded:** 2016, Omaha, Nebraska
- **Founder:** Denise Ibsen Cole
- **Status:** 501(c)(3) nonprofit in formation
- **EIN:** 42-3384604
- **Focus:** hereditary cancer awareness, education, and genetic-testing access
- **Signature:** the world's only "step" mini marathon — 26.2 steps, not miles

## OUR FRAMEWORK

### Awareness

Understand hereditary cancer risk and why testing matters.

### Empowerment

Trusted information, real stories, expert voices.

### Action

Testing, a provider conversation, or joining the walk.

## 2026 EVENTS

### Fri, Sept 4, 2026 — Cancer Survivorship Conference

UNO Scott Center, 6450 Pine St, Omaha, NE (Mini Marathon 10:30–11:00 am)

### Sun, Sept 20, 2026 — 10-Year 26.2 Step Mini Marathon

Cancer Survivors Park, 1111 S 105th St, Omaha, NE · 10th anniversary

## EVENT-DAY BENEFICIARIES

- Kamie K. Preston Hereditary Cancer Foundation
- Nebraska Medicine Oncology Patient & Family Experience Fund

## ABOUT THE FOUNDER

Denise Ibsen Cole is the founder of the 26.2 Step Mini Marathon. She is a hereditary-cancer patient advocate and a BRCA1 previvor, a former board member of the Omaha-based Hereditary Cancer Foundation, and a patient-advocate leader for the national nonprofit FORCE (Facing Our Risk of Cancer Empowered), where she has testified at the state level against insurance discrimination for people with high-risk mutations. She is a former Education Ambassador for Bright Pink and holds a Master of Public Administration from the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

**Media contact:** [contact@262minimarathon.com](mailto:contact@262minimarathon.com) · **Web:** [262minimarathon.com](https://262minimarathon.com) · **Social:** Facebook / Instagram @26.2stepminimarathon · X @262stepminimar1

For interviews, high-resolution logos, or founder availability, please reach out. This fact sheet is part of the 26.2 Step Mini Marathon press kit.