Dear Friends,

Another amazing year! The big numbers to know:

- **25°F** “Feels Like” temp at North Ave Beach
- **310** Plungers into Lake Michigan
- **$29k+** Dollars raised
- **3** Deserving families supported

We are so grateful for the awesome turnout and the friendly atmosphere from this year’s plunge and participants! It was such a great day and we appreciate everyone’s understanding with the last minute change of venue to North Ave Beach. We are extremely thankful to everyone who donated, participated and came out to the after party at Moe’s Cantina and it was amazing to witness the generosity throughout the day. We are proud to announce that **$29,000+** (and counting) has been raised to help support the Hernandez, Cadena/Ramirez, and Robinson families. Your generous donations will help all 3 families cover outstanding bills and ensure each family has a warm, safe home for their families to be together.

The Plunge is a ridiculous event and always an opportunity for great photos and videos, which are available on our Facebook page. Therefore, take a look and please post any great photos that you have from the day.

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**THE PLUNGE**

The fantastic turnout made this another great year! The CPBC Polar Plunge is a true Chicago tradition and we are excited to welcome many rookie Polar Bears into the club, such as: Scott Conklin, Phil Bush, Holly Hogg, Amie & Joe Cooke, Tina Weidenhammer, Alderman James Cappleman, and Miss Northern Illinois - Ciara Jasso. There is also a great tradition of veteran CPBC polar bears and we’d like to celebrate a few of them: Kevin Monahan’s 13th Plunge, Gelson Taube’s 10th, Saoirse O’Malley’s 9th, Grant Boyadjian’s 9th, Sean Madigan’s 7th, Kristen Swastek’s 7th, Michelle Leonardi’s 5th, Scott Abercrombie’s 3rd, Jason Gadomski’s 3rd, and Patricia MacHannahfard’s 2nd plunge.

We LOVE that so many of you have embraced this ridiculous tradition and it’s because of all of you that this event remains Chicago’s best plunge!

Just as exciting, we have now raised **$430k** during our 19 years and provided financial grants to **34 wonderful families**.

We’ll never be able to say thank you enough times for everyone’s support for the past 19 years, but we’ll continue to try by making our 20th Annual Plunge our best ever!

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**FUNDRAISING REPORT**

We are excited to announce a huge fundraising year and a great after party. From donations, registrations, sponsorships, merchandise sales, raffle tickets and the after party we have raised an amazing **$29,000+** to assist with the financial challenges that face the Hernandez, Cadena/Ramirez and Robinson families.

With more than 500+ generous donations, all of us will help Julian & Jessica Robinson move to a new neighborhood to ensure their two boys, Markell and Mason, are provided the opportunities for a fun and safe childhood. Your donations will pay for rent, groceries and medical bills related to Julian’s diabetes and Mason’s asthma.

In addition, your donations are helping Vanessa Hernandez, a single mother with 3 children, bring her family together under one roof. Your donations are helping pay the rent for this family to be reunited.

Finally, your donations will help Diana Cadena, a single mother with 5 children. Your donations will help this family with rent and groceries over the next year as they overcome the terrible tragedies they have recently faced.

For these families, the Polar Plunge is a life-changing event. Together we are making a difference in the lives of real families.
We want to give special thanks to the companies who helped us put on the Plunge, especially: Tito’s Vodka, FT Cares Foundation, Ipsento Coffee, Blake’s Seed Based, Fjallraven Chicago and Moe’s Cantina River North. We had many wonderful, companies who graciously donated raffle prizes & resources to make this year’s CPBC Plunge a huge success. We encourage everyone to check out our website and learn more about these organizations. Thank you all again and we hope to see you all next year.

Sincerely,
The Chicago Polar Bear Club