



**RESPIRATORY
HEALTH
ASSOCIATIONSM**
of Metropolitan Chicago

NEWS

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Record number to Hustle Up the Hancock

Chicago's 12th Annual World Class Stair Climb – Sunday, February 22nd

A record 4000 climbers from every Chicago neighborhood and 29 states will be scaling the 94 stories of the Hancock Center on Sunday, February 22, 2009 in the 12th annual Hustle Up the Hancock stair climb benefiting Respiratory Health Association's lung disease research, advocacy and education programs.

The fastest climbers will sprint up the 1632 steps in under 10 minutes said race director Gina Schwieger.

"For many people it's how fast you can climb, for others it's a personal dream to make it to the top, but for everyone it's a way to help Respiratory Health Association reduce the burden of lung disease that strikes a million people throughout the Greater Chicago area," said Schwieger.

This year more than 2,500 participants indicated they or their families have been touched by a form of lung disease, typically lung cancer, asthma or emphysema.

Stair climbs have become increasingly popular both as athletic challenges and fundraising events. Hustle Up the Hancock, which has been voted one of the top 10 novelty events to do in Chicago by Windy City Sports, is expected to raise \$1.3 million. It's not easy to get into the world class stair climb – this year's registration sold out in just 39 minutes.

TV anchors, sportscasters and reporters will compete in the media division. Last year ABC7's John Garcia took home the fastest climber trophy, and NBC5 won the fastest team category.

For more information on the climb or to donate to lung disease research, visit www.lungchicago.org or call (312) 243-2000.

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Respiratory Health Association of Metropolitan Chicago (RHAMC) has been a local public health leader since 1906. Today the Association fights lung disease and promotes healthy lungs by supporting research, advocacy, and educational efforts on behalf of individuals and families affected by lung cancer, asthma, COPD (chronic bronchitis and emphysema), and other lung diseases. For more information, visit www.lungchicago.org.

Chicago's Lung Health
Leader Since 1906

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