

Walk for the Future

Frequently Asked Questions!!

Why should I pre-register?

There are several benefits for those walkers who pre-register. New this year is a reduced fee for those registering prior to the August 17th deadline. If you pre-register, you have a shorter wait at the registration table on walk day, you're guaranteed the shirt size you need, and it helps our many volunteers to plan for the day's event. Long sleeve tees are only an option to those that pre-register.

Can I put my entire family on one registration form?

We realize this would be easier, but unfortunately we DO need a separate form for each walk participant. For liability reasons, we do need a completed form for each walker as it contains a consent either signed by the walker or guardian, if the participant is younger than 18. Thanks for understanding!!

Do I have to pay to walk if I don't want a shirt?

The Walk for the Future is our primary fundraiser. Like all other walk fundraisers, the registration fee is how revenue is generated. For that fee, you receiving entrance to the event for one participant and you will also receive one t-shirt. New this year, each participant will also be asked to wear a paper wristband to indicate that we have a signed consent as well to assist us in determining the actual number of walkers statewide.

We will not turn away participants who would like to be at the event but are financially unable to pay the registration fee. You will still need to sign a consent, will not receive a t-shirt, and we do encourage you considering any donation that you are financially able to share.

What is the difference between a registration fee, a donation, and a pledge?

As previously noted, the registration fee is for participation in the event. A donation would be any amount a donor shares that is above and beyond the registration fee and is 100% tax deductible. A pledge is money that is collected prior to the walk from family, friends, neighbors, colleagues, and others that want to support our cause but are unable to attend the event. Pledges are also 100% tax deductible!

What is the walk proceeds used for?

The revenue generated at the annual walk is primarily used for our day to day operations that support our mission of support, education, and hope. An example being such things as staff, support materials, peer contact trainings, memorials, safe sleep presentations, and our annual research donation.

Do I have to collect pledges to participate?

Collecting pledges is not required to participate in the walk. It is an additional opportunity to raise funds for the Foundation for those that want to support our mission but otherwise would not attend the walk. For those walkers collecting more than \$100 in pledge, you will receive a sweatshirt with the walk logo and baby's names approximately one month after the walk.

What happens if it rains?

We get wet! Seriously, we do walk rain or shine, so you might want to bring an umbrella...just in case! In the event of lightning, the walk would be delayed until the storm passes. If it appears to be an all day weather event, the walk would be cancelled and no refunds given.

Do you allow pets and strollers?

As we host the walk statewide, this answer will vary site to site. Please visit our webpage under events to see details about specific walks. If pets are allowed, they must be on a leash, the owner will be responsible for the pet, and 'cleaning up' after Fido is much appreciated.

Can I run the walk course?

You are welcome to run the walk route, but no sites are being timed for the 2011 walk. We do ask that both walkers and runners are respectful of each other, kiddos, and strollers.

How do I make sure my baby's name is on the walk shirt?

A parental permission form was mailed about 3 years ago, is distributed to new families, is on our webpage, and was posted in our newsletter. We do need written parental permission to include your baby's name. If you need a form, it can be accessed on the webpage or by calling the office at 866-480-4741. Not sure if you have one on file, PLEASE CALL! We will be happy to help. All names DO need to be received no later than August 1, 2011 to ensure adequate time for shirt design and printing.

How can my business or employer be a walk sponsor?

We are always open to new walk sponsors. There are 3 levels of sponsorship and we would be happy to meet with you and/or your employer to discuss the benefits of each. Not able to sponsor, each walk is also in need of raffle prizes, door prizes, and refreshments.

I would like to be a walk volunteer, who should I contact?

This annual event could NOT happen without volunteers!! Whether you would like to volunteer just on walk day or would like to be an active part of a walk committee, contact us at info@iowasids.org or call the office at 866-480-4741 and we will forward your information to the walk site that you are interested in.

How can I have a walk in my community?

There is a lot of behind the scenes work that happens before that 4th Saturday of August, planning for the walk begins shortly after the New Year! If you are interested in possibly hosting a walk for your community in 2012, please contact Patty at the office. She will be happy to explore walk timeframes, distances to other walk locations, and the responsibilities of each walk coordinator before any final commitments are made.