

Sample Letter

Dear Family and Friends,

It is once again Team Alex time! Each year the Scheidt family gathers family and friends to walk with us at the annual Great Steps for Neurofibromatosis Walk! This year the walk is on Saturday, June 6, 2009 at 9:00 AM at the Naperville Riverwalk Grand Pavilion.

Team Alex walks to help raise awareness about Neurofibromatosis and to help fund and support research. Neurofibromatosis (NF for short) is a genetic disorder of the nervous system that causes tumors to form on the nerves anywhere in the body at any time. NF is a progressive disorder that affects all races and both sexes equally. Currently there is no cure or effective treatment.

Many important advances have been made in NF research in recent years. Specifically that NF is closely linked to many of the common forms of cancer, brain tumors and learning disabilities. NF directed funding from the US government has been cut drastically over the last few years just as research was really taking off. You can find out more information about NF and NF research by visiting NF Inc, Midwest's website at [http:// www.NFMidwest.org](http://www.NFMidwest.org).

Alex was diagnosed with NF type 1 when he was 2 years old. So far we've been very lucky. Alex has many, many small 'mosquito bite sized' neurofibromas, some learning disabilities and hypotonia, which all combined, presents lots of challenges for him but we've been spared any real serious complications. With God's blessings, Alex will continue with his good health.

And now this is where you come in! Lace up those shoes, join Team Alex and walk with us at Naperville's Riverwalk. From 2006's walk, we've doubled both our team size and fundraising efforts and for the 2009 walk, we hope to do it again! Let's work together, and have fun at the same time, by raising awareness and funds for NF!

The NF walk is on a nice, smooth, tree-lined, 2.75 mile, handicap accessible course winding by the DuPage River in downtown Naperville, IL. There will be a continental breakfast, prizes, a t-shirt, lunch and very good company! Alex says his favorite part of the day is the walk itself because every 1/4 mile or so they hand out candy. Typical of Alex!

If you are able to join us fantastic! Please go to: <http://www.GreatSteps.org>, print out the registration forms, fill them out and send it in (just write Team Alex on the form) and don't forget to let us know 'cause we always try to come up with a fun 'uniform' for the event.

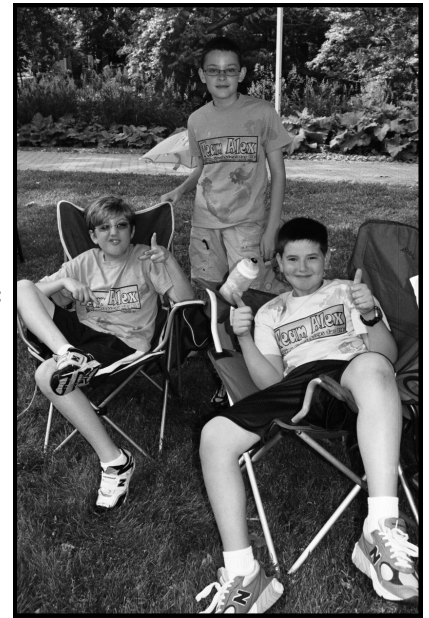
If you are unable to make it the day of the NF walk, you can still join the team! Please consider sponsoring us. Donations can be mailed directly to: Great Steps for NF, Neurofibromatosis, Inc. Midwest, PO Box 1923, Lombard, IL 60148 (write in the note: Team Alex #820) or through our Firstgiving site at <http://www.firstgiving.com/teamalex>, which is simple, fast and secure. Don't forget to see if your company does matching gifts too, every bit helps.

Many thanks for your support -- and don't forget to forward this to anyone who you think might want to donate too!

Thanks again and hope you can join us!

Sincerely,

The Scheidt Family
Greg, Sheri, Alex & Kelsey



Alex (left), chilling out with friends before the 2008 walk.



2008 walkers. Will you be in the 2009 photo?