

Eel River Elementary School
Fort Wayne
Saturday Sept 8, 2012
Check-in 9:00 am
Walk begins 10:00 am



Annual Walk for
Neurofibromatosis

NF Midwest
473 Dunham Rd., Ste. 3
St. Charles, IL 60174
630-945-3562 (ph)
greatsteps@nfmidwest.org
www.greatsteps.org

Fort Wayne Walker Information

Get Motivated—Start Fundraising Now!

Thank you for showing your support by signing up to join in our inaugural **Great Steps for NF** walk. It's not just about enjoying the day with family and friends, it's also about the awareness and funds that are raised in the months and weeks before. Many teams choose to hold a personal event to raise funds for their team and these events have been wonderful for raising awareness!

How do I Fundraise? There are many easy ways:

Online Donations

Design an online fundraising page with your photos and a personal story at www.firstgiving.com/nf. Be sure to add your team name and number. Send it to everyone you know!

Letter Writing/Donor Forms

Send out a letter along with a donor form and return envelope to family, friends, co-workers, and classmates. Go to your bank, insurance company, hair salon, mechanic, etc.

Hold a Fun Event

Some of our top teams are successful because they hold separate events to reach their fundraising goals. These are especially wonderful because they raise awareness. We've seen bowling nights, vendor nights, trivia nights, sock hops, fun fairs and more. Give us a call if you need an idea or need help with a creative one of your own.

Pledge Envelopes

Pledge envelopes work well door to door or take them to the office, school, etc. Call the office if you need one.

Set a Goal to Win Great Team Prizes!

Raise (per team) Receive:

| | |
|---------|-------------------------|
| \$1,500 | GS Lined Picnic Blanket |
| \$5,000 | GS Fleece Jacket |

Prizes awarded only for monies received by Noon on Sept 8th, 2011. Funds received the day of the walk cannot be included in level prizes. Substitutions may be made, according to availability.

Special points of interest:

- Checks should be made payable to **NF Midwest**.
- Volunteers are needed!
- Get the word out! Please help us display the enclosed poster at your office or local business.
- Please, let us know if you know a business owner or executive that may be interested in a sponsorship.
- We are looking for in-kind donations for raffle baskets.
- Easy 3 mile walk.



Fundraising Tips

- The main reason people donate is because they are asked! You are the key.
- **The goal is for each participant to raise at least \$100.** How can you do that? Here are 3 easy steps: start by sponsoring yourself for \$25, ask one family member to sponsor you for \$25, then ask five friends to donate \$10. How easy is that? Don't stop there! What about your boss, co-workers or local merchants? The possibilities are endless!
- Ask your employer about matching gifts. A form can be obtained from your Human Resources Department. Matching gifts must be secured by Thursday, September 8 to be eligible for prizes.
- Feel free to photocopy the donor forms or go online to greatsteps.org to print more. Contact the NF office if you need them by mail.
- Enclosed is a sample letter that can be used or re-designed to fit your needs.
- Make sure your name and participant number are written on the donor forms. Donor forms are used to write "Thank You's" and for team/individual donation summaries.

Where does the money go?

All the money raised will help improve the lives of those affected by neurofibromatosis. We use the funds to support research studies, which have led to discoveries about not only NF, but also cancer and learning disabilities; to improve clinical care; for programs of support and education; and to raise awareness. Keep the hope alive for the over two million people challenged by NF!

Before the Walk

Additions to your Team?

It's easy to add more family/friends to your team. Have new team members fill out a registration form, sign the waiver and send it in or sign up online. One registration form per family. Feel free to photocopy the registration form or go to greatsteps.org for more.

Continue Fundraising

GREAT STEPPERS can make a difference towards care and a cure! Everyone is strongly encouraged to collect and send in donor monies **prior** to the walk. **Winners are based on money received by noon on September 6th.** Please send to NF Midwest, 473 Dunham Rd., Ste. 3, St. Charles, IL 60174.

Donation Summaries

A summary of your Individual/Team donations will be sent to team captains periodically. As a team captain you are the liaison between the team and the NF office. Please update your team members of your fundraising success.

Directions to the Walk

The walk is being held at Carroll High School, 3701 Carroll Rd, Fort Wayne, IN. Take US69 to Lima Rd Rt 3 (exit 11B) north to Carroll Rd; west to the high school.

Morning of the Walk

The location of check-in will be clearly marked. Signs will direct you where to go.

Check-in will begin at 9:00 a.m. Individuals/Team captains are responsible for signing in for yourself/team members. He/she should collect and turn in any pledge monies not sent into NF Midwest. Walkers may be added to your team the day of the walk but **monies collected by late registrants cannot be added to your team total. Register and collect early!**

- Be sure when checking in you receive your complimentary raffle ticket.
- Additional raffle tickets will be available for purchase.
- T-shirts will be located near registration. T-shirts are on a first-come basis for anyone not pre-registered.
- Find the refreshment table and mingle with your fellow walkers.

The walk will begin at 10:00 am. The route will take approximately one hour depending on your speed.

Time to Celebrate!

After the walk, please join us in celebrating our "Great Steps" for NF. At this time a prize will be given to the top fundraiser. For those who enjoy having a little fun, we will be awarding a prize for that individual, family or team who displays the most creative accessory/costume to express themselves.

Be sure to stay and win some of the fantastic raffle prizes (must be present to win) while you enjoy some snacks. Baskets will be raffled after the awards ceremony. Every participant has a chance to win.

Other Items to Note

- Only foot traffic and strollers are allowed on the route. Bicycles, roller skates, roller blades, scooters, and all motorized vehicles are prohibited unless they are required for a disability.
- For your safety, please stay on the sidewalks and follow the leading walker.
- We will have volunteers along the walk with communications should you need assistance. Please note there will be no emergency services at and along the walk.
- We will be walking rain or shine. Please dress accordingly and use your best judgment in case of lightning.
- If you have ANY questions please give us a call at 630.945.3562 or drop an email to greatsteps@nfmidwest.org.



Enjoy candy and give-aways along the walk!



Be sure to "accessorize" and have some fun! The most creative team may get a special prize.

**We need sponsorships, volunteers and raffle donations.
Who do you know that might like to be a part of this important cause?**