



Thank you for leading foster care ministry in your local church!

This May, Fostering Family ministries celebrates children and families in foster care. To recognize all the God has been doing through our ministry and each of you we are hosting a fundraising Color Fun Walk & 5K Run. Our goal is fun, awareness, appreciation of our foster and kinship families and raising funds to serve more children & families.

YOU are key to engaging your church family in this ministry for children in foster care. While fostering is hard, transitions are tough, and healing takes work we encourage you and your church to set a tough goal to achieve. Maybe you choose the 5K as a tough distance, perhaps you increase your fundraising goal to stretch your faith. Join us all and "Go an extra mile for a child!" Encourage families, youth groups and small groups to get involved.

This packet provides you with all the tools you need to promote the **Color Fun Walk & 5K Run**. There is a **1 mile walk** and a **5k fun** run option. All participants will experience the colorful powder stations to "decorate" their t shirts!

Here are a few key details: **MATCHING CHALLENGE** Every dollar matched up to **\$25,000**. Let's meet the goal!

- Date: **May 20th, 2023 (8 AM – 11:30AM)**
- Location: **Freer Field, Center St. Ashland**. Register at Children's Home. Race follows path and trails.
- **Schedule of Events:**
 - **8:00a** Check in (ALL) **9:00a** 5K Fun Run & 1 mile walk begins
 - **At 8:45am we will have a COLOR THROW group photo and brief recognition of foster/kinship families present. Celebrate all God has done through you and FFM! Refreshments following event**
- **Preregister** at **FosteringFamilyMinistries.org/WalkRun**. Required sponsorship to register is **\$25**. This increases to **\$50** on 5/14 for **5K**. This is a self-timed unofficial 5K and there will be no medals awarded. There will be prizes awarded to fundraising leaders' walker or runner, 1st, 2nd, 3rd place.
- **T Shirts are FREE with a \$25 sponsorship**. (T Shirts are available on a first-come, first-served basis the day of the event) **Set a personal fundraising GOAL!**
- **Wear cheap sunglasses or goggles** to protect eyes if needed. Colors are non-toxic and washable. Colors can be set in shirts with vinegar spray and ironing. **Wear white to show off the color!** If concerned about powder, wear face mask through color stations (4-6 stations).
- **Online Personal Fundraising made EASY:**
 - Walkers/runners can create an online personal fundraising page and share with family and friends using email their social network. OR you may record on the paper pledge form.
 - If using paper form please return form and checks/cash collected to FFM to one of the drop off locations or bring them the day of the event.

Visit www.fosteringfamilyministries.org/ffm-resources/color-run-walkrun-2023 for more details, digital downloads, and online registration. Call us at **419.496.2507** with any questions. Thank you for your work on behalf of children and families in foster care. Praying for God's abundant blessing on all your efforts.

For Hope and a Future,

Sherry M. Bouquet



COLOR FUN
WALK RUN

MAY
20
2023

2023 Champion Walk/Run Checklist

- Meet with church leadership and OK Walk/Run promotion
- Set a goal for number of walkers/runners from your church...and **GO FOR IT!**
- Appoint a team captain from your church to register online at www.fosteringfamilyministries.org/ffm-resources/color-fun-2023 and add your team
- And add your church youth group as a team!
- Include bulletin announcements, newsletters, slides, posters, social media and announcements at church
- Ask EACH walker/runner to officially register online at www.fosteringfamilyministries.org/ffm-resources/color-fun-2023. A sign-up sheet is enclosed for a paper tracking of those planning to join your church.
- Encourage people to pre-register by Friday, May 19. Walk ins are **welcome** the day of the event!
- Give each registered walker a paper Sponsor Pledge Form OR EVEN BETTER
 - Promote an Online Personal Fundraising Page for each walker/runner. They receive a **FREE** fundraising page which makes fundraising a snap! They can invite friends & family to sponsor them online using email and social networks.
- Remind Walkers/Runners to get pledges as quickly as possible. All walkers with **\$25** or more in pledges receive their T-Shirt for FREE. (T-shirts will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.)
- Follow up with each registered Walker/Runner on your list to see if they have any questions and how they are doing in gathering pledges.
- Promote! Share! Encourage!

EVERYONE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

- Can't make it the day of? **REMOTE** participation from your own location is great!
- It's easy...1 mile walk or 5K.
- Walk, run, strollers and wheelchairs welcome.
- Many hands make light work. Keep your church and engaged. Together we can make a difference in the life of children and families in foster care!



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2023 Sample Announcements

Calling all Walkers/Runners. May 20th, 2023, Freer Field in Ashland. Fostering Family Ministries is hosting its first annual Color Fun Walk & 5K Run. Help us celebrate serving foster and kinship families and children while raising funds to further the work. For more information see (*church champion*) or call Fostering Family Ministries at 419.496.2507 or go to www.fosteringfamilyministries.org/ffm-resources/color-fun-2023

Go the extra mile for a child. Participate in the annual **Color Fun Walk & 5K Fun Run on May 20, 2023** at Freer Field in Ashland. Go the extra mile and join this pledge to walk/run event to support our children and families in foster care. Get a pledge sheet from (*church champion*) or visit www.fosteringfamilyministries.org/ffm-resources/color-fun-2023

Fundraising Tips

- **Set a “Tough” goal.** Remember, foster care is tough! Write the number on your pledge form or online fundraising page.
Start your pledge sheets with a generous pledge. Most people will follow the example of the first pledge on your paper form or online fundraising page.
- **Support yourself.** You set the pace and demonstrate your personal commitment to your goal.
- **Dedicate your walk/run** to someone who has been touched by foster care.
- **Create a personalized fundraising page** which can connect to your social media and emailed to your friends and family. You can ask for and collect secure donations. Visit www.fosteringfamilyministries.org/ffm-resources/color-fun-2023 to set up.
- **Make an announcement.** Contact Sherry at 419.496.2507 to schedule a FFM speaker for a short presentation.
- **Use special occasions.** Ask for pledges in lieu of birthday, anniversary or special occasion gifts.

Finding Sponsor Support

- Ask Family members to sponsor you.
- Ask friends
- Ask people from your church
- Ask neighbors to sponsor you.
- Ask your company, boss and coworkers to sponsor you.
- Ask friends on social media to sponsor you.
- Ask out of town friends & family to sponsor you.
- Ask businesses you frequent to sponsor you.
- Ask a friend to join you at the Color Fun Walk/Run.