

10/28/2017



Frequently Asked Questions | Making Strides For Autism, Inc.

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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the Friends With Autism 5K and Community Walk?

The Making Strides For Autism, Inc.'s 1st annual Friends With Autism 5K and Community Walk is more than just a Run and a Walk - it's a fun time for the entire community to come together and raise awareness and acceptance for families and individuals living with autism spectrum disorders (ASD) in Northeast Florida! Join other families for the community resource fair, silent auction, music, children's sensory zone, speakers, and so much more! When we raise awareness here... Funds raised will stay here! Funds raised will be returned to our community to provide direct services in the form of support, training and advocacy for local families and individuals living with autism spectrum disorders (ASD). Begin your fundraising today: [REGISTER](#) for the Friends With Autism 5K and Community Walk.

How do I register?

To register online, go to <https://FWA5KWALK.itsyourrace.com/register/>. You can also contact the Race Management Team – Ultimate Racing and Making Strides For Autism office by scrolling to right on the Event Details page at <http://FWA5KWALK.itsyourrace.com/>.

5K/Walk Day registration is also available although we strongly encourage everyone to register pre-event. Early registration enables you to take advantage of our “Express Check-In Kiosk.” Bypass the long registration lines and be on your way to enjoy the many activities that much sooner! Check the registration homepage on Its Your Race for Kiosk link closer to 5K/Walk event day.

How much is registration?

Because the Friends With Autism 5K/Walk is a fundraising event, we charge the following registration fees:

- 5K 17 and Over: \$25
- 5k 16 and Under: \$15
- FWA COMMUNITY WALK – INDIVIDUAL: \$15
- FWA COMMUNITY WALK 12 and under: Free
- FWA COMMUNITY WALK - SCHOOL TEAM (12 max): \$144
- FWA 5K - SCHOOL TEAM 16 & UNDER (12 max): \$166
- FWA COMMUNITY WALK - SCHOOL TEAM (12 max): \$144
- FWA COMMUNITY WALK - CORPORATE TEAM (12 max): \$144
- FWA 5K - CORPORATE TEAM (12 max): \$276

We encourage you to set a fundraising goal and utilize the tools provided to share your story and ask your family and friends for their support. The money you raise helps fuel the Making Strides For Autism, Inc.'s goal of lessening the financial impact of autism by keeping the services and programs we offer to the families and individuals low cost or no cost. We hope that everyone **will raise a minimum of \$150** to receive our **Friends With Autism 5K/Walk T-shirt**. This year's shirt has our Autism-Friendly Branded Identification Logo that will soon be displayed at businesses across Northeast Florida that has joined our community outreach initiative.

Do I need to register my child/children for the 5K or walk?

Every participant must register for the 5K or Walk. Children who are under 18 and wish to fundraise for the 5K or walk should register online. Children under 16 who will be participating in the 5K will need to register online and we will need their guardian to fill out a waiver form online or at the registration tent on race/walk day.

DONATIONS

Where do the funds from the 5K/Walk go?

Making Strides For Autism, Inc. (MS4A) was founded in March 2016. We're a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with a social enterprise business model. At Making Strides For Autism, Inc., our goal is to lessen the emotional and financial impact of autism on families and individuals living on the First Coast with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD). We are dedicated to providing support, training, and advocacy to autism families; creating job training and meaningful jobs for adults with autism, and to raising public awareness about autism and its effects on individuals, families, and society.

Making Strides For Autism, Inc. is 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization recognized by the Internal Revenue Service code. All donations are tax-deductible.

How do I donate?

There are several easy ways to donate:

- Donate online to a specific team, individual participant in the 5K or walk via their fundraising page
- Donate on race/walk day: Cash, check and credit card donations are accepted
- Donate via mail
- Make checks payable to: **Making Strides For Autism, Inc.**

Mail to:

Making Strides For Autism, Inc.

Attn: FWA 5K/Walk Donation

2133 Broadway Ave

Jacksonville, FL 32209

- If you wish to credit a particular team or individual please be sure to include an offline donation form found in the Friendship Kit on Making Strides For Autism, Inc.'s website's FWA 5K & Walk page www.bit.ly/fwa5kwalk, or a note that states:
 - Friends With Autism 5K and Community Walk, Individual or Team to Credit

PLEASE DO NOT SEND CASH IN THE MAIL

Donations can also be turned in the day of the 5K/walk. Please make sure an offline donation form, found on the Making Strides For Autism, Inc.'s website's FWA 5K & Walk page www.bit.ly/fwa5kwalk, accompanies each donation to ensure proper credit. We strongly encourage all participants to mail their donations to the Making Strides For Autism, Inc. address above prior to race/walk day.

During the heaviest fundraising weeks of the walk (November, December and January), please allow up to 2 weeks for mailed donations to be fully processed.

What if my donors need a receipt?

When a donor gives online, they will receive an automatic thank you letter that can be used as a receipt. All other acknowledgment letters will be mailed after the event. If you donated to a Making Strides For Autism, Inc. event and you didn't receive a thank you letter, please contact us at info@makingstridesforautism.org.

I mailed a donation to the 5K/Walk but it's not listed on my donations list.

Please allow 10-15 business days for processing. If the donation does not appear after 15 business days, please contact us at info@makingstridesforautism.org.

What can I do to make sure my donations are credited to my account?

Make sure your donors know that they need to be on your fundraising page when they make a donation online for it to be credited to your fundraising efforts. If they are unable to donate online, please print out the donation form located on the Making Strides For Autism, Inc.'s website's FWA 5K & Walk page www.bit.ly/fwa5kwalk and include it with their donation.

This form contains information that will ensure that you receive the proper credit for all donations.

If someone donates to your walk and you weren't credited for the donation, please contact us at info@makingstridesforautism.org to have your donation properly attributed. In order to assign proper credit to your personal fundraising page **you must be registered online for the event.**

If you are not sure that you have registered, please go online to the 5K/walk site <https://fwa5kwalk.itsyourrace.com/EventCheck.aspx?id=10109> and search for your name. If you are still unsure, please email us at info@ultimateracing.com.

Can I send in donations for more than one participant in one envelope?

We encourage you to send one envelope per runner/walker to ensure your donations are processed quickly. If you have multiple people in your household with donations you would like to turn in all at once please be as specific as possible as to how the donations should be credited. The more information you provide the faster we can process your donations. Also, in order for donations to be processed, the participant must be registered online.

What happens to the donations if I can no longer participate in the event?

We're so grateful for your fundraising efforts and sorry we will miss you at the Friends With Autism 5K and Community Walk. Please be assured all donations go towards supporting the mission of Making Strides For Autism, Inc... If you were planning to turn in donations on Race/Walk Day and are unable to attend, please make sure to mail them in with an offline donation form. You can find the form on the Making Strides For Autism, Inc.'s website's FWA 5K & Walk page www.bit.ly/fwa5kwalk – and this will ensure we properly associate your donations with your team. If you are unable to make the event itself we encourage you to participate with us virtually on social media as the 5K/Walk will be presented live on Facebook.

Are donations tax deductible?

All donations are tax deductible in the same calendar year your donation was processed to the extent allowed by law. Please work with your tax professional to determine what deductions you are eligible for.

TEAMS

What is a Walk Team?

Teams are made up of family, friends, classmates, running teams, support groups, and coworkers all fundraising, running, and walking together under one team name.

How do I start my own team?

Starting a team is easy. Register your team today by visiting <https://FWA5KWALK.itsyourrace.com/register/> and select the type of registration you want to participate in. i.e. 5K, Walk, team, individual, etc. Once you register, set a goal of how many people you want to have on your team and establish your fundraising goal - then start asking! Encourage all your team members to help meet your team goal.

How many people do we need to form a team?

We recommend that a team consist of 10-12 people who raise a minimum of \$150 per person. But we leave the size of your team up to you!

How can my company or school participate?

Companies and schools can participate by organizing teams of employees and students to raise funds and race, walk and/or be a corporate sponsor. National or large regional companies interested in participating and sponsoring the 5K/Walk are eligible to participate in our Corporate Partners Team Program. For more information, please contact friendswithautism@makingstridesforautism.org.

Is it difficult to organize a company or school team?

Not at all! Once you appoint a team leader, he or she will act as a liaison between the Making Strides For Autism, Inc. Corporate or School Chair and your company. Making Strides For Autism, Inc. will provide tools and coaching along the way to ensure your employees and

students have a great experience and feel proud of their impact on the lives of families and individuals living with autism in our community.

Is participation on a company or school team limited to employees and students of the company/school?

No. Team participation is encouraged among families and friends as well.

Does having a team require some kind of corporate donation or sponsorship?

Corporate donations and sponsorships are encouraged but not required. The majority of contributions will be generated by your individual team members. However, corporate matching gifts can enhance employee fundraising efforts. You can find out more about your company's matching gift contacting your company's Human Resources or Public Relations office.

ONLINE TOOLS

Making Strides For Autism, Inc. provides team captains and participants online tools to help support your fundraising efforts. These tools can be found at <http://www.bit.ly/fwa5kwalk>.

I forgot my Username and Password.

Go to <https://fwa5kwalk.itsyourrace.com/event.aspx?id=10109>. In the upper right hand corner you will see the My Account tab, click on that tab and then click on Forgot Username/Password

If you still have questions, please contact info@ultimateracing.com.

How do I unsubscribe from e-mail?

You can opt out by following the link at the bottom of 5K/walk e-mails that you receive.

PERSONAL FUNDRAISING PAGE

What is a personal page?

A personal fundraising page is a web page provided by Making Strides For Autism, Inc. to every registered online participant to help promote fundraising for the walk. Your personal page is automatically created for you when you register online and is where you can direct friends and family who want to donate to the 5K/Walk on your behalf. They can donate online or print an offline donation form to mail in with their check www.bit.ly/fwa5kwalk. We encourage you to personalize your page with a photo and to share your inspiration for walking with Making

Strides For Autism, Inc...

How can I see who has donated to me?

Log in to your Participant page. You can view all your donations here, who gave to you, when, and how much. You may not see some donors as anyone who makes a donation, has the option to remain “Anonymous”. You can also receive an automatic email anytime anyone makes a donation.

What if I want to raise funds but I do not live in Northeast Florida or can't participate in the actual 5Kwalk? Will I still have access to fundraising tools?

Friends With Autism 5K/Walk Fundraiser is a great way to show your support if you can't attend a 5K/Walk. You will have the same level of access to fundraising tools as other participants, and all of the dollars you raise will go toward supporting the mission work of Making Strides For Autism, Inc... To register as a Fundraiser go to <http://fwa5kwalk.itsyourrace.com/Fundraising.aspx?id=10109> and access the fundraising tools at www.bit.ly/fwa5kwalk.

GENERAL EVENT QUESTIONS:

Be sure to check the 5K/walk home page for specific event information

Are strollers, wheelchairs, bicycles and inline skaters allowed to participate?

Strollers and wheelchairs are welcome. All walk routes are accessible. However, for everyone's safety, bicycles, inline skates, wheelie footwear, skateboards and scooters are not allowed.

Is there anything I can use to prepare my loved one living with autism for the 5K/walk?

The Friends With Autism 5K and Community Walk has a customized Race and Walk Day Packet. This customized packet helps prepare children and adults living with autism for their race or walk day experience. The packets will be available on February 1, 2018. Visit the homepage of the walk site on this date to download the Runner and Walker Walk Day Packets.

Can I bring my dog?

Only service dogs are allowed at 5K/walk events. Please leave your pets at home unless you have a service dog.

Is the 5K/Walk a competitive event?

Our 5K race is competitive event. But our community walk is a non-competitive event that is family friendly.

What happens if it rains?

The Friends With Autism 5K and Community Walk is rain or shine unless a natural weather emergency occurs.

WHAT TO EXPECT ON WALK DAY

Be sure to check the 5K/walk home page on the day of the 5K/walk for specific event information

Friends With Autism 5K and Community Walk Includes:

- Express Check-In Kiosk for Pre-Registrants
- A 15 minute Opening Ceremony
- A 1 mile walk
- A (5K) 3.107 mile race
- An after race/walk awards ceremony
- Speakers and entertainment
- Sensory Friendly Zone with activities for children and adults
- Community Resource Fair Area
- Friendship Village
- Refreshment Area
- Corporate Sponsors
- Sensory Break Tent

Questions? Contact us: Walk questions email us at info@makingstridesforautism.org. For 5K questions email info@ultimateracing.com.

