

Sample Fundraising Letter

Dear _____,

I am writing you today to tell you about an upcoming event that I am participating in that is both very important and very exciting to me. It is the Scleroderma Foundation Michigan Chapter's 31st Annual Walk and Run that is being held in Royal Oak, MI at the Detroit Zoo on June 27, 2010.

Insert a paragraph here about why you have made the decision to participate in the 31st Walk and Run. Maybe it is in memory of a loved one who has died from scleroderma or in honor of someone who currently is battling scleroderma or possibly you are a caregiver. Whatever your reasons this is the perfect place in the letter to insert them. Don't be afraid to share your emotions.

I would like to ask you to join me on June 27th at the Detroit Zoo for a day of fun or to show your support by donating to this valuable cause. If you would like to register to walk with me it is so easy to do so. Simply go to <http://www.firstgiving.com/31stwalk> and register, it only takes a few minutes of your time. You can even make a donation to sponsor me on the same website. Donating online is fast and secure and you can do it at your convenience 24/7.

Scleroderma is a chronic, autoimmune connective tissue disease, which means that it is a condition in which the body's immune system attacks its own tissues. The normal role of the immune system is to provide protection from invaders such as viruses. In autoimmune disorders, this ability to distinguish foreign from self is compromised. As immune cells attack the body's own tissue, inflammation and damage result. Scleroderma (the name means "hard skin") can vary a great deal in terms of severity. For some it is a mild condition; for others it can be life threatening. Although there are medications to slow down the diseases progression and help with symptoms, there is as yet no cure for scleroderma.

The Foundation's mission is three-fold:

Support: To help patients and their families cope with scleroderma through mutual support programs, peer counseling, physician referrals, and educational information.

Education: To promote public awareness and education through patient and health professional seminars, literature, and publicity campaigns.

Research: To stimulate and support research to improve treatment and ultimately find the cause of and cure for scleroderma.

The Scleroderma Foundation Michigan Chapter is a 501(c)3 charity and any donation you make to support my participation in this event is tax deductible. The Scleroderma Foundation has been rated by Charity Navigator with four stars, their highest rating showing your dollars are being spent efficiently and effectively.

Thank you so much for your support.

Sincerely,

Signed Your Name