

## Sample Fundraising Letter

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

I am writing you 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 Annual Walk and Run that is being held in \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_.

***Insert a paragraph here about why you have made the decision to participate in the annual 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 \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ 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/SFMlevents> 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, often progressive autoimmune disease-like Rheumatoid Arthritis, Lupus, and Multiple Sclerosis - in which the body's immune system attacks its own tissues. The disease, which literally means "hard skin", can cause thickening and tightening of the skin as well as serious damage to internal organs including lungs, heart, kidneys, esophagus, and the gastrointestinal track. Scleroderma occurs three to four times more often in women. For most people with scleroderma, the disease has a serious impact on daily life. For many, it is a life threatening disease. And although medications can sometimes help, at present there is no cure.

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 non-profit organization. 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,

Your Name