



Dear 2014 Walk to Cure Arthritis Event Chair,

First of all, I'd like to thank and congratulate you for taking on this very important role as the Walk event chair. Without your leadership, we could not have such successful Walks across the country. The Event Chair is essential because you set the tone for how your walk committee will operate. But, you are not alone and you do not have to "do it all!" We can provide you with the support you want and need!

In 2013, the Arthritis Foundation held more than 130 Arthritis Walk events across the country, raising nearly \$10 million to prevent, control and cure the nation's most common cause of disability. Now with your support in 2014 and with our rebrand to Walk to Cure Arthritis, we will not only raise more money to improve the lives of people with arthritis and working toward a cure. Every step counts and every dollar matters!

Please look at the other folders in this section that we call "Walk In the Box" (or WIB). This toolkit is designed to help you and your committee organize the most successful Walk in your community. Each section is divided by the Chairperson's role and includes documents, tools and samples that have been helpful to other events across the country. We encourage you and your committee members to visit the Volunteer Resource Center (or VRC) frequently for updated information. When I was the Event Chair for my event, I looked first at the documents in WIB so I was not always re-inventing the wheel. It helped me with everything from talking to volunteers and sponsors, to setting the agendas for meetings! If there is anything that you need that you can't find in WIB, please contact the representatives from the National Volunteer Committee; their contact information is available on this website.

The National Walk to Cure Arthritis Volunteer Committee and I are available to you as a resource should you or a member of your committee have any questions, comments, concerns or ideas that you want to share.

On behalf of the Arthritis Foundation, the more than 50 million Americans including 300,000 children currently living with arthritis, we welcome you as a 2014 Walk to Cure Arthritis Event Chair and thank you for your dedication and time to this worthy cause. Together, we will make a difference in the lives of others.

Best of luck for a successful Walk to Cure Arthritis,

Kelli Schandel
2014 National Walk to Cure Arthritis Chair
www.arthritiswalk.org