

SAMPLE FUNDRAISING LETTER

Dear _____:

I am participating in 3rd Annual "One Step Closer...Autism Walk" presented by the Howard County Autism Society. The event will occur on Saturday, October 17, 2009 at Centennial Park in Ellicott City.

The event will promote autism awareness and raise money to help the Howard County Society continue its mission to serve individuals on the autism spectrum, their families, and the community.

Autism is a lifelong developmental disability. It is a neurological disorder, which presents itself in a variety of symptoms that affect individuals differently. Autism knows no racial, ethnic, or social boundaries. People with autism typically have difficulties with communication, sensory input, and appropriate behaviors, as well as deficits in social understanding.

The incidence of autism is increasing. Autism currently affects 1 in 150 children nationwide. In Howard County, about 11% of students who receive special education services in the public school system have autism. The state average is 6.1 percent.

My personal goal is to raise \$_____ to help individuals with autism. Will you help me reach my goal by making a donation? Any support you can give will be greatly appreciated!

Checks should be made payable to the Howard County Autism Society. All donations to HCAS are tax deductible.

Please send donations to me or to the Howard County Autism Society, 10280 Old Columbia Road Suite 215, Columbia, MD 21046 and include a memo that you are supporting (your name or your team name) in the "One Step Closer...Autism Walk." You can also go to www.howard-autism.org to donate online.

Thank you for your support!

Sincerely,