



**American
Foundation
for Suicide
Prevention**



OUT OF THE DARKNESS CHICAGOLAND EXPERIENCE FAQ

➤ **Why isn't the scheduled walk happening?**

After much discussion and consideration we felt it is best to not have the walk due to health and safety concerns. With that said, we still encourage you to walk in your community – you choose the route, time, distance, and your walking buddies! Please be sure to follow local COVID-19 guidelines.

➤ **Can I still walk on my own, with friends, with my team, etc.?**

Absolutely! While we can't gather to walk together this year, we encourage you and your team members to get together and walk during the event weekend on your terms: you get to choose your own course, what time you start, and who walks next to you (be sure to follow local COVID-19 guidelines)!

➤ **I walked and have photos that I would like to share – where do I send them?**

Wonderful! Please email them to chicago@afsp.org as soon as you can!

➤ **What do you mean by a virtual event? What does the event weekend look like?**

- ❖ While we can't gather to walk together this year, we encourage you and your team members to get together and walk during the event weekend on your terms: you get to choose your own course, what time you start, and who walks next to you (be sure to follow local COVID-19 guidelines)!
- ❖ An online event platform is being created and will include elements such as the Why I Walk Wall, Memorial Wall, and more! The link is www.chicagowalk.org/event and it will be live starting on 10/17.
- ❖ We will be streaming an Opening Ceremony, community discussions, and a Closing Ceremony on Saturday and Sunday. The community discussions will be based around the Honor Beads with fellow participants sharing their stories as well as others sharing their expertise around the different connections to the cause. A link will be sent the week of October 12th.

➤ **How will I access the online event?**

The interactive event site link is www.chicagowalk.org/event and will be live on 10/17. The Honor Bead Community Discussions link will be shared soon!

➤ **Will elements such as the Why I Walk Wall, Memorial Wall, etc. still be available?**

Yes! The online event weekend website will have some of the elements from the walk – just in a virtual space instead! www.chicagowalk.org/event

➤ **I submitted a photo for the slideshow – where can I view it?**

The slideshow will be scrolling on 10/17 and 10/18 at www.chicagowalk.org/event.

- **Will the Honor Beads still be available this year?**
The physical beads are not available but the event weekend will be focused around the Honor Beads.
- **Is there a registration fee to participate?**
No, there is no registration fee to participate.
- **If I registered for the walk, do I need to register again?**
No, you are all set!
- **Are volunteers needed?**
At this time we don't have any specific volunteer needs.
- **Is there a fundraising requirement?**
No, but we strongly encourage each participant to set a \$150 fundraising goal to help support AFSP's work to stop suicide. Anyone that raises at least \$150, will receive the official event t-shirt.
- **If I raise \$150, how will I receive the official event t-shirt?**
If you raise at least \$150 by October 9th, you will receive the t-shirt in the mail free-of-charge and before the event weekend.

If you raise \$150 after October 9th, we cannot guarantee you will receive your t-shirt before the event weekend. But you will still receive your shirt in the mail.
- **Can I receive other prizes for fundraising?**
Yes! See below for the different levels based on total fundraising on October 18th.

\$500-\$999: Red Ribbon Walker – receive a \$25 certificate for the AFSP Store.
\$1,000+: Blue Ribbon Walker – receive a \$50 certificate for the AFSP Store.

You can also receive these [great recognition gifts!](#)
- **Can companies/organizations still sponsor the event?**
Absolutely! Please email chicago@afsp.org for more information.
- **How do I start a team?**
To register and start a team, go to www.afsp.org/chicago and click register. Follow the prompts and be sure to choose 'Walker or Team Captain' and 'Create a Team'.
- **Is there a max number of team members?**
No, the more the merrier! And more team members leads to greater awareness.
- **How do I find my personal fundraising page link?**
Click [here](#) for a step-by-step guide.
- **How do I set up my personal fundraising page and/or team fundraising page?**
Click [here](#) for a step-by-step guide.

If you have additional questions, please email chicago@afsp.org and we will be happy to help!