

PARTICIPANT & TEAM CAPTAIN Handbook



Any Baby Can Walk for Autism

SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2025

8:00 AM - 12:00 PM CANYON HIGH SCHOOL 1510 I-35 New Braunfels, TX 78130

WHY WE WALK MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIFE OF A CHILD WITH AUTISM

One in 36 children nationwide are diagnosed with autism.

In Comal and surrounding counties, over 30,000 individuals are living with autism. That means that you or someone you know has a close connection to a child or individual who lives with autism and whose daily lives are challenged by this diagnosis.

New Braunfels had their first Walk for Autism in 2019 and this event has become a critical part of increasing services provided to families raising children with Autism. The incredible involvement of NBISD, CISD, the McKenna Center, and our other community partners has allowed for Any Baby Can-NB to provide services and supports for families raising individuals on the spectrum. All proceeds stay local to fund critical, one-of-a-kind programs at Any Baby Can - New Braunfels.

April is National Autism Awareness Month. The Walk for Autism will be held Saturday, April 6, 2024, at Canyon High School.

For questions and ideas, please contact Aniza Lopez, your Team Guide, at alopez@abcsa.org or (210) 227-0170 Ext. 1016



REGISTER AND FORM YOUR TEAM

TEAMWORK MAKES THE DREAM WORK!

SIGN UP.

- Register yourself and your team for the Any Baby Can Walk for Autism <u>here</u>.
- IT'S FREE!
- Invite your team members to register.
- NOTE: when registering, the system says Enter Your Payment Information. This is an optional step. You can click Next without filling it out.

TEAM UP.

• When prompted, create your own team. Ask 5-6 people to join your team (think coworkers, family, and friends) - the more, the merrier! Members will be prompted to join when they register for the walk.

SHARING IS CARING!

- Create a GiveGab account using the link sent to you and personalize your team page. Why are you walking? Share your story and let people know why you formed your team.
- Add a picture or video. It will help donors visualize the cause.
- Share your fundraising page on your social media channels (tag Any Baby Can!) to raise funds needed to help us continue, and expand, the reach of our autism services.
- BONUS: Top fundraisers have access to a special VIP area!

You've got a team!

- 1 coworker
- 2 relatives
- 2 friends
- 1 neighbor

Did You Know?

Walkers who share their fundraising page on social media raise 4x more than those who do not!

RECRUITING IDEAS

IF YOU BUILD IT, THEY WILL COME

- Directly ask family, friends, and co-workers. The number one reason people will join your team is because you asked them!
- Use social media! Share with your Facebook or Instagram friends, Twitter followers, or LinkedIn connections that you've formed a team and ask them to join. They may have a connection to someone living with an autism diagnosis or an interest in supporting you in your journey. Don't forget to include the link to your team page!
- Get your workplace involved! Send emails to colleagues and share more information about the Walk for Autism on April 25, 2025. Your company may even have a match program and will match donations (It's a good idea to ask!).

FUNDRAISING INCENTIVES

TO SHOW OUR APPRECIATION

KYNGSTON'S KORNER VIP Village (\$500 and Above)

- Teams that raise \$500 or more will have exclusive access to our VIP reception area at the Walk site. Teams who earn entry will receive special VIP treatment including breakfast, refreshments, and giveaways.
- Teams who raise \$1,000 or more, will get their own team tent and meeting space to decorate. These teams will get their own cases of water, breakfast delivered to their tents, and a official team photo.

Awards will be presented in the following categories:

- Largest Team awarded to the team with the most individuals registered
- **Top Team (Friends and Family)** Friends and Family team with the most money raised
- Top Team (Corporate) Corporate team with the most money raised
- **Top Team (Communiy Organization)** School/Organization team with the most money raised
- Top Fundraiser (Individual) Individual with the most money raised

Last day to submit funds for awards is April 4th at NOON. Donations can still made after the deadline but will not count towards awards.



WHAT TO EXPECT AT THE WALK

A WALK UNLIKE ANY OTHER

McKenna Foundation Resource Fair

Our resource fair brings you over 40 different autism, family, and healthcare resources from a variety of organizations, businesses, and service providers.

Kinder Korner

Kinder Korner is a children's activity area provides adapted fitness, safety demonstrations and activities where children of all abilities can participate and have fun.

Food Truck Park:

Stop by our Food Truck Park for quick delicious bites!

Farmer's Market

Enjoy delicious local produce and products with an on-site Farmer's Market!

Sensory Friendly Zone:

Area available for families with children with sensory sensitivities. The area is indoors and outside of the Walk for Autism footprint (less traffic and quieter).

Thank You!

Thank you so much for taking the time to spread the word about Any Baby Can's work and for fundraising on our behalf. Every dollar raised moves us closer to fulfilling our mission and helps us continue to make a lasting impact. We appreciate you and look forward to continuing this meaningful partnership for years to come!

We're excited to see you there! If you have any questions, please contact Aniza Lopez, your Team Guide, at alopez@abcsa.org or (210) 227-0170 Ext. 1016

