



June 1, 2017

Dear Friends and Potential Sponsors:

Imagine receiving news about your health- or the health of a loved one- that will impact you for the rest of your life. You have a bleeding disorder. Your career, hobbies, where you live, family planning, and many other life decisions are now all affected. Your doctor can prescribe a treat regimen, but where do you turn for help and support in between office visits. Who has the most relevant experience or practical knowledge to help you navigate life with a rare and life threatening chronic disorder?

Being part of a community that shares experiential knowledge often mean the difference between effectively managing a chronic disorder like Hemophilia or von Willebrand Disease, or being debilitated by it. Patient education, public awareness, support and advocacy for those affected are the principals at the core of our organization. We are *Hemophilia of South Carolina (HSC)*, and we would love to have your support!

Hemophilia and other bleeding disorders are rare and the occurrence of knowing someone in your lifetime with the same disorder is highly unlikely. HSC provides individuals and families affected by bleeding disorders a support system to learn and network with others in the state who are also affected, helping them to develop a stronger support system that will benefit the emotional health of individuals within the family unit. Having a bleeding disorder can be an extremely isolating experience and the feelings of knowing you are not alone in this chronic health struggle are unmatched in importance.

**Hemophilia of South Carolina** is a 501(c) 3 non-profit organization which serves the state of South Carolina and is a chapter of the *National Hemophilia Foundation (NHF)*. HSC is proud to present our **“Turkey Trot 5K Walk/Run for Hemophilia and Bleeding Disorders”**. The event will be held at the Saluda Shoals Park in Columbia, South Carolina, on November 4, 2017. This event is our Chapter’s largest fundraising event and is made possible by the generous support of our donors and sponsors. The funds raised will support the educational programs, advocacy initiatives and supportive services we provide to those affected by bleeding disorders in South Carolina. A portion of the walk proceeds will be provided to the research of the National Hemophilia Foundation. Walks such as ours occur each year throughout the nation to support local chapters.

Persons with bleeding disorders, like hemophilia, have clotting factors or proteins in their blood that are missing, low or do not work as they should. The lack of a specific clotting factor prevents the blood from clotting normally. This can lead to bleeding into joints, muscles and internal organs. Bleeding into the joints and muscles is extremely painful and causes long term damage. Certain internal bleeding episodes such as bleeding in the brain, can be life-threatening. Treatment is expensive and can be complicated. Currently, there is no cure.

For the past 44 years, **Hemophilia of South Carolina** has provided support services and educational programs to the South Carolina bleeding disorders community. Below are just some of the programs and services that your sponsorship dollars will support and ensure to continue. Our advocacy efforts have improved the lives of many in our community.

We provide the following and more, free of charge:

1. An Annual *State-Wide Educational Conference & Meeting*
2. *Support groups, workshops*
3. *Camping support* and *Chapter Day* to our state camp for children affected by blood disorders
4. *College Scholarships*



5. **Financial Assistance Program**
6. **Patient Advocacy Training**
7. A state legislative day in **March, the National Bleeding Disorders Awareness Month**, to raise awareness of bleeding disorders and advocate for the needs of those affected.
8. Annual **teen retreat**
9. **Walk Fundraiser** and **food drive** during the Thanksgiving Season
10. **Golf Fundraiser** to raise awareness
11. **An outreach** and **referral program** in collaboration with our Hemophilia Treatment Center (s)
12. Annual Year-End meeting and **Holiday event** which includes a visit with Santa Claus and gifts
13. **Quarterly newsletter** for our members, all affiliations of our organization, state hospitals and HTC's.
14. **Educational and social dinner programs and events** throughout the state to assist families in their **local areas**
15. **Educational Family Camp Weekend**
16. **Local, regional and national training**
17. **Washington Days at the Nation's Capital.**
18. **Funding** to support the **NHF Judith Graham Pool Research** Fellowship and funding to **world projects** for underdeveloped countries for treatment.

Additionally, as this event is scheduled around Thanksgiving, we invite walkers to bring a non-perishable food item for our Chapter to present to the Harvest Hope Food Bank to help support those in need. Last year we delivered over 50 lbs. of needed items.

We hope we can count on you to support our mission. Hundreds of families in South Carolina will benefit from your support and on behalf of **Hemophilia of South Carolina**, we thank you for your consideration. Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call or e-mail me at the below contact information. Additional information on the walk, participation and sponsorships packages can be located on our website at [www.hemophiliasc.org](http://www.hemophiliasc.org). Click on the 2017 Turkey Trot Link.

Warm Regards,

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