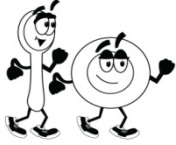
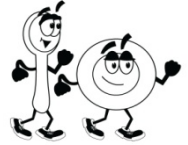


Hey Diddle Diddle, Help Solve the Food Riddle!



AFAA Food Allergy Awareness **5K Walk & Run** **Frequently Asked Questions**



What is AFAA?

The Anaphylaxis and Food Allergy Association of Minnesota (AFAA) is a 501(c)3 non-profit.

What is AFAA's mission?

To educate, advocate, and support those with life-threatening food allergies.

How does AFAA cover operating expenses?

AFAA operates through the generosity of volunteers and donations, small grants, and occasionally nominal fees subsidized by clinic and company sponsorships.

Why is AFAA hosting a fundraising walk & 5K?

Since its inception in 2001, AFAA has been operating on a shoestring budget and run by entirely by volunteers. Money raised during the fundraising walk will help AFAA continue their mission to educate, advocate, and support those with life-threatening food allergies.

Where and when will the walk & 5K take place?

The walk will take place on Saturday, May 14, 2016 at Como Regional Park (Picnic Pavilions at Midway Parkway & Como Ave), in St. Paul, Minnesota. Registration begins at 8 a.m. and the walk & 5K begins at 9 a.m.

Who may participate in the walk & 5K?

Everyone! Families; individuals; company & corporate teams; school teams; clinic teams; sports teams; team of friends; etc.; (All participants must register and sign a release form and children under age must be registered by an adult).

Is the walk accessible?

Yes! The Walk route and restroom facilities are wheelchair and stroller accessible. Walkers can walk as long or short as each participant chooses.

How much will it cost to participate in the walk?

Those registering by April 30th can register at the Early Bird rate of only \$35 (regular rate \$50). A link to online registration is available at www.minnesotafoodallergy.org as are printable walk/5K registration forms.

How may I raise money for the cause?

Recruit friends, neighbors, co-workers, family members, and classmates to sponsor your participation in the walk & 5K - and join you to walk too! Together you can make a team! AFAA will offer online and paper forms designed to support your fundraising efforts.

Are donations tax deductible?

Yes. Gifts are deductible from taxable income to the full extent allowable. AFAA is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

What has AFAA accomplished?

Since its inception in 2001, AFAA has:

- Spearheaded legislation and policy advocacy;
- Provided extensive education and outreach;
- Supported families and individuals with allergies;
- Received recognition from national organizations:
 - Food Allergy Research Education Advocacy Leadership Council;
 - Food Allergy and Anaphylaxis Network *Making a Difference Award*;
 - Allergy and Asthma Foundation of America States' Report Honorable Mention;
 - Childrens MAGIC and Kids With Food Allergies Foundation

More specifically:

- In 2002, AFAA spearheaded the law that put life-saving epinephrine into all Minnesota ambulances;
- In 2003, AFAA provided analysis about food labeling legislation to Congressional Members;
- In 2004, AFAA successfully overcame lobbyist opposition to guarantee legal accessibility to epinephrine for Minnesota students; in 2013 it followed up with a law to make it easier for schools to obtain and use non-patient specific “stock” epinephrine;
- In 2007, AFAA negotiated with Minnesota's medical insurance companies to cover elemental (amino acid) formula for those unable to eat any food whatsoever;
- In 2008, AFAA encouraged Congressional Members to increase funding for federal research to the causes and cures of food allergies;
- In 2009, AFAA met with Northwest/Delta Airlines to recommend policy changes to create safer flying environments for food allergic passengers;
- In 2009, AFAA collaborated with the Restaurant Association and Chamber of Commerce to pass a food allergy restaurant ordinance that drew national attention;
- AFAA regularly meets with elected & agency officials about food-labeling challenges; passenger safety; foodservice safety; and the need for federal funds for research;
- AFAA works with numerous schools and school districts to create food allergy policies for students, and is currently composing school guidelines;
- In partnership with the Minnesota Department of Education and the Minnesota Department of Health, AFAA helped create *Guidelines for Medications in Schools* and currently serves on the FDA Food Code Rule Revision Committee for Minnesota.
- In 2012 an AFAA proposal to push FDA into releasing food allergy restaurant guidelines was unanimously passed by the national Conference for Food Protection (CFP) on which AFAA serves with food safety professionals from throughout the U.S. & representatives from USDA & FDA;
- Each year AFAA hosts an annual Food Allergy Conference & Expo (the first and only food allergy trade show in the U.S.). Leading food allergy speakers offer presentations and training, and companies from the U.S., Canada, Australia, and the U.K. participate in the trade show;
- AFAA established the food allergy Booth Outreach Program, with booths at various Minnesota conferences and conventions and health fairs (including the 12 days at the Minnesota State Fair) which educates thousands of people each year;

- AFAA operates a Speakers' Bureau, which gives presentations and in-service training to schools, daycares, trade shows, conferences, organizations, companies, state agencies, & restaurants;
- AFAA arranges food-safe activities throughout the year, such as museum outings, Timberwolves or Lynx Basketball food-free suites, Saints and Twins Baseball Peanut-free game sections, 4th of July parade marching, playdates for children, & an annual no-food Halloween event;
- AFAA established and operates the only overnight food allergy camp in the U.S. for kids & parents;
- AFAA provides educational materials to families, fairgoers, foodservice, educators, medical professionals, media, and the general public;
- AFAA encourages the development of local food allergy support groups & offers ongoing support: No-one should feel alone with the challenges of life-threatening food allergies!

How many people does AFAA reach?

- It is estimated that AFAA had *personal contact* with more than 20,000 people per year - PLUS media coverage and literature distribution!
- AFAA affects thousands more by promoting federal research funding; school training and student accommodations; emergency preparedness; foodservice training; and other successful advocacy efforts.

How can I contact AFAA?

Anaphylaxis and Food Allergy Association of Minnesota (AFAA).
 2200 Hendon Avenue, St. Paul, Minnesota 55108.
 Phone: (651) 644-5937;
 E-mail: info@minnesotafoodallergy.org or walk@minnesotafoodallergy.org;
 website: www.minnesotafoodallergy.org. www.facebook.com/minnesotafoodallergy

Food Allergy Statistics:

- Up to 15 million (8 percent of children and 2 percent of adults in the United States are estimated to have food allergies)
- Approximately 150-200 people die each year as the result of allergic reactions to food
- Over 50,000 people receive life-saving treatment annually in emergency rooms
- Approximately 200,000 Minnesotans have food allergies
- Over 60,000 Minnesota students have food allergies

Food Allergy Awareness Walk

Saturday, May 14, 2016

9 a.m. Como Regional Park, St. Paul MN

(Registration begins at 8 a.m.)

Sign up at

www.minnesotafoodallergy.org

or call (651) 644-5937 for printed form