

WALK TO FEED THE HUNGRY – BUDDHIST GLOBAL RELIEF
BERKELEY, CA

OCTOBER 6, 2018

Thank you for signing up for the Berkeley Walk to Feed the Hungry. The main purpose of these events is to raise funds for Buddhist Global Relief (BGR) to distribute to projects that will reduce hunger around the world. Fundraising on these walk is a “lifeline” for the life-changing and life-saving projects of BGR.

To help you make the most of your effort, we are pleased to share some fundraising tips you might find helpful:

- Be sure to email family and friends who might want to support you in the walk by making a donation. See below for an easy template you can adapt for your own use. If you'd like to include photos from BGR partner organizations, visit:
www.flickr.com/photos/buddhistglobalrelief/collections/
- Post your news of the walk on Facebook. This year we even have a video you can use! Go to <https://youtu.be/IMZtE9g2ixk>
- Remind donors about matching donation programs at their place of work – many companies offer matching gift programs. Donors can check with their employers to see whether Buddhist Global Relief is included in their corporate giving program. BGR is part of the Combined Federal Campaign (Number 74375). All gifts to Buddhist Global Relief are tax-deductible. This is an easy way to help fundraising dollars go even further.
- For your birthday this year, ask friends and family to give the gift of relief from chronic hunger and extreme poverty through donations to Buddhist Global Relief. For example, you can have people donate money to a cause in your name by starting a birthday fundraiser on Facebook.
- Get permission to make an announcement or set up a donation jar at your place of work, a class you attend or teach, or a community gathering spot. Download our flyer or there is a brochure available on BuddhistGlobalRelief.Org You can print this out to place with the jar. (Go to the website and click on “Tools for Activists” or email (ca_walk@buddhistglobalrelief.org) and we'll mail you a brochure.)
- Make an announcement at your sangha to invite donations to support you on the walk or to join you on the walk. (If you would like to use the Buddhist Global Annual Report with pictures and project descriptions to help you with your presentation you can go to BuddhistGlobalRelief.Org and click on “Publications”; or send an email (ca_walk@buddhistglobalrelief.org) if you would like a hard copy mailed to you.

- A week before the walk, thank contacts that you have reached out to earlier and remind those that haven't donated that the walk is coming up and there is still time to support work of Buddhist Global Relief. Many donations come in at the last minute with a reminder as the walk date gets closer.

Helpful Walk FAQs

What is the Walk?

The Walks to Feed the Hungry are walk events held at locations around the world. The goal of these events is to raise funds for programs that combat hunger, improve livelihoods, raise global awareness of hunger, and support the communities that address these problems. Over 90% of donated funds are directly allocated to support global projects that combat hunger and improve livelihoods.

Why are we doing this?

BGR's mission is to combat chronic hunger and malnutrition. Bearing in mind the Buddha's statements that "hunger is the worst kind of illness" and "the gift of food is the gift of life," we sponsor projects that promote hunger relief for poor communities around the world.

Template for friends and family:

Dear friends and family,

Here is a cause close to all our hearts. On Oct 6th, I will be walking in Berkeley for Buddhist Global Relief to help fight world hunger. These walks are the "lifeline" for BGR and the main fundraising events of the year.

Besides direct food aid and addressing climate change through promoting sustainable agriculture, BGR supports projects that chip away at the subordinate status of women in traditional cultures, one of the main factors behind global poverty and hunger.

As Bhikkhu Bodhi writes, "Many of our projects aim to provide education and vocational training to girls and young women so they can play more prominent roles in their communities, make their voices heard in their families and societies, and obtain forms of employment that will enable them to earn more to support their families."

Please, support me in raising funds for this organization. Let's take a "step" towards creating a world where we all have the chance to eat regular, healthy food that allows us to grow into the life we envision as we help each other out.

Buddhist Global Relief is an all-volunteer organization and 90% of their budget goes directly to those in need, whether in Asia, Africa, Haiti or North America.

Don't forget to apply for a matching gift if your employer has such a program.