



OCTOBER

RETT SYNDROME AWARENESS MONTH FUNDRAISING

HOW ARE YOU GETTING INVOLVED?

IRSF

IRSF is the world's leading private funder of basic, translational and clinical Rett syndrome research, funding over \$28M in high-quality, peer-reviewed research grants and programs to date. Annually, IRSF hosts the world's largest gathering of global Rett researchers and clinicians to establish research direction and priorities while exchanging ideas and the most recent information. IRSF is the most comprehensive non-profit organization dedicated to providing thorough and accurate information about Rett syndrome, offering informational and emotional family support and stimulating research aimed at accelerating treatments and a cure for Rett syndrome and related disorders. IRSF has earned Charity Navigator's most prestigious 4-star rating. To learn more about IRSF and Rett syndrome, visit www.rett syndrome.org or call IRSF at 1-800-818-7388!

**YOUR HELP IS
OUR HOPE!**



October Rett Syndrome Awareness Month is a great time to build awareness through fundraising! Think about activities that your family and friends already enjoy doing and tie fundraising to it. Often, there is no additional effort to fundraise in this way.

Want some ideas? If...

- You have a video game system, invite friends over for a gaming tournament. Challengers can donate \$10 to participate and you can put half of that into a prize fund and donate the other half to IRSF. (Tip: winners often donate a portion or all of the winnings back to the foundation)
- You and your friends enjoy tasting wine, invite everyone to bring 2 bottles of their favorite wine and you provide the cheese and crackers. Ask for a \$20 donation and everyone goes home with a bottle of wine.
- You belong to a bowling league, ask if one week of the 50/50 game can be donated to IRSF rather than to the prize fund or ask if you can do a special raffle one week
- Have a favorite restaurant, ask if they would host a percentage of sales day/evening and if you could set up an information table to collect donations and share the IRSF Fact Sheet. Advertise it through email, Facebook, Twitter and word of mouth.

Want to get your office involved? Consider...

- A jeans day (or week or month) – charge \$5 a day, \$20 for a week, or \$50 for the month. This works for theme days, too: favorite sports jersey, crazy tie/scarf day, costume day (remember it will be Halloween), and more.
- A coin jar – is there a word that your office over-uses or a little too much swearing? Change your office atmosphere while raising some money – charge a \$1 every time the word(s) are used. Offer a pre-pay “discount” option for those who know they won’t make it!
- A bake off or a chili cook off – charge an entrance fee (split 50/50 style) for the cooks and charge a flat fee to the tasters.
- A potluck lunch – ask co-workers to sign up to bring an item (make sure you have all parts of a meal covered) and then ask everyone to donate \$5 for the convenience of having lunch brought in. This could be combined with a bake sale, too.
- A snack station for Rett – close down the vending machines for the month, pick up some supplies at a warehouse store, set your prices and open for business.

Want to get the kids or the schools involved? How about...

- A lemonade or hot-chocolate stand – set up on a popular street corner, in front of the local grocery store or even before or after a worship service
- Change for a Cure – get as many classrooms to participate as possible and set up the challenge. Every penny in the jar is a positive for that class, but any silver coin will “decrease” the total for the classroom. Pennies=(+\$.01), but nickles=(-\$.05), dimes=(-\$.10) and quarters=(-\$.25). The class closest to zero or with the highest positive total wins! Maybe the local pizza store or movie theater would donate prizes.
- A movie night - invite everyone for a movie night. Ask everyone to donate \$10 and mom & dad provide the snacks. Add board game Olympics or a dance off for an additional donation.

Mix it up, try something new, get creative! ORSAM is about awareness and raising money to advance IRSF's research program, but we want you to have fun while you spread the word. This type of fundraising will have you friends and family and office asking...“when can we do this again?”.

Thank you for raising awareness and funds! We can't do it without you! Visit www.rett syndrome.org today to get started on the fundraiser of your choice!