

# GILDA'S RACE FOR HOPE

BENEFITTING



**GILDA'S CLUB  
SOUTH FLORIDA**

An Affiliate of the  
CANCER SUPPORT COMMUNITY



**5K WALK & RUN**  
October 3, 2026

## RESOURCE GUIDE

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# ABOUT GILDA'S CLUB SOUTH FLORIDA

With any cancer diagnosis can come feelings of fear, uncertainty, isolation, and emotional exhaustion. For over 20 years, **Gilda's Club South Florida** has built a welcoming and compassionate community for individuals and families impacted by cancer.



**Gilda's Club South Florida** provides emotional and social support at no cost for people living with cancer, cancer survivors, caregivers, friends, and family members. No one is ever charged for services or support.

Programs and services include:• Support groups• Educational workshops• Healthy lifestyle activities• Wellness programs• Social connections• Community resources and referrals• Family and caregiver support• Programs for children and teens impacted by cancer

The goal of **Gilda's Club South Florida** is simple: to ensure that no one faces cancer alone. At **Gilda's Club South Florida**, people find community, encouragement, emotional support, understanding, and hope during one of the most difficult periods of their lives.

## GILDA RADNER'S LEGACY

Gilda's Club South Florida, inspired by comedian and original Saturday Night Live cast member **Gilda Radner**, was founded in 1995. Following her cancer diagnosis, Gilda recognized the importance of emotional and social support while navigating treatment. She envisioned a place where people impacted by cancer could come together in a warm, welcoming environment filled with support, understanding, education, hope, and friendship.

After her passing in 1989, her husband Gene Wilder and Joanna Bull helped establish the first Gilda's Club in New York City. Today, Gilda's Club locations across the country continue that mission by creating communities where individuals and families impacted by cancer can receive support at no cost.

# ABOUT RACE FOR HOPE WITH GILDA'S CLUB SOUTH FLORIDA

Race for Hope is Gilda's Club South Florida's signature community fundraising event. The event brings together staff, families, friends, supporters, and community members in support of individuals and families impacted by cancer. Race for Hope is more than a race or walk; it is a celebration of strength, resilience, compassion, community, and hope.

**Date of Event:** October 3, 2026

Funds raised through Race for Hope help Gilda's Club South Florida continue providing free support programs and services for those navigating cancer.



## RACE DAY INFORMATION

***Participants are encouraged to:***

- Arrive early
- Wear comfortable clothing
- Bring water
- Take team photos
- Celebrate fundraising efforts
- Support one another throughout the event

## WHY WE FUNDRAISE

Fundraising allows Gilda's Club South Florida to continue serving the community through free emotional and social support programs. Every donation helps support:

- Free support groups
- Educational workshops
- Wellness activities
- Family support services
- Community outreach
- Programs for children and teens
- Resources for caregivers and loved ones

# TEAM CAPTAIN RESOURCES

This guide is designed to help successfully build and manage fundraising teams for Race for Hope. Each Team Captain is encouraged to utilize their personal and professional network to recruit supporters, encourage donations, and build excitement around the event.

## TEAM BUILDING TUTORIAL

**Step 1: Set a Goal** - Determine your personal or team fundraising goal. Set up a team member recruitment target number.

***Note:** For every individual who fundraises \$100 on a team, they will receive one (1) complimentary registration for 1 person for the walk/race, a participation medal, a swag bag full of goodies, and a signature Gilda's Race for Hope t-shirt.*

**Step 2: Recruit Team Members** - Invite friends, family, coworkers, community supporters, and business contacts.

**Step 3: Share Your Story** - People are more likely to support your fundraiser when they understand why the cause matters to you. Share why you support Gilda's Club South Florida or a personal connection to cancer to show why community support matters to you.

**Step 4: Raise Funds** - Use email, social media, text messages, personal conversations, and internal fundraising activities. To encourage participation and friendly competition, top fundraisers may receive: Paid day off, gift cards, or other prizes.

**Step 5: Celebrate Success** - Recognize milestones, fundraising achievements, and team participation throughout the campaign.

# TEAM FUNDRAISING IDEAS

- Bake Sale
- Donation Jars
- Lunch Fundraiser
- Raffle Basket
- Social Media Challenge
- Candy Sales
- Office Competition
- Trivia Challenge
- Team Spirit Day

## 10 WEEKS OF FUNDRAISING IDEAS

- Week 1 – Personalize your fundraising page.
- Week 2 – Invite family and friends to support your fundraiser.
- Week 3 – Share your fundraiser online.
- Week 4 – Send reminder emails and texts.
- Week 5 – Host a small fundraiser internally.
- Week 6 – Recognize fundraising milestones.
- Week 7 – Follow up with supporters.
- Week 8 – Share team progress updates.
- Week 9 – Final fundraising push.
- Week 10 – Celebrate Race Week.

## FUNDRAISING TIPS

- Share fundraising pages consistently
- Utilize social media and email
- Encourage team participation
- Celebrate milestones and progress

# SAMPLE RESOURCE MATERIALS

## SAMPLE LEADERSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT

Date:

To: All Team Members

From: (Leadership Name)

RE: Race for Hope Team Campaign

We are excited to officially launch our Race for Hope fundraising campaign in support of Gilda's Club South Florida. This year, we are encouraging all members to create or join fundraising teams and utilize their own networks to help raise awareness and support for individuals and families impacted by cancer.

For over 20 years, Gilda's Club South Florida has provided free emotional and social support to individuals and families impacted by cancer. They are a welcoming community where people living with cancer, survivors, caregivers, children, teens, and loved ones can find support, understanding, education, and hope at no cost. Through support groups, wellness activities, educational workshops, social connections, and family programs, Gilda's Club South Florida helps ensure that no one faces cancer alone.

Funds raised through Race for Hope directly support these life-changing programs and services, allowing us to continue providing compassionate care, meaningful community, and critical resources to the members we serve every day.

Participation is simple:

- Join a team • Share your fundraising page • Encourage donations • Attend Race for Hope on October 3, 2026

Together, we can create meaningful impact while strengthening our culture of teamwork, compassion, and community engagement.

Thank you for your support.

(Name)(Title)

## SAMPLE “JOIN MY TEAM” LETTER

Date:

Dear: (Name)

I am participating in Gilda's Club South Florida's Race for Hope on **October 3, 2026**, and would love for you to join my team or support my fundraising efforts. Race for Hope helps support individuals and families impacted by cancer while helping Gilda's Club South Florida continue providing free emotional and social support services.

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Funds raised through Race for Hope directly support these life-changing programs and services, allowing us to continue providing compassionate care, meaningful community, and critical resources to the members we serve every day.

You can:

• Join my team • Donate to my fundraiser • Share my fundraising page:  
Fundraising Link: (Insert Link)

Thank you so much for your support.  
(Your Name)



**[DOWNLOAD HERE](#)**

## **SAMPLE SOCIAL MEDIA POST**

“ I’m proud to support Race for Hope 2026 for Gilda’s Club South Florida.

Support my Race for Hope 2026 fundraiser for Gilda’s Club South Florida and help provide free support services for individuals and families impacted by cancer! You can join my team or donate here: (Insert Link)”

## SAMPLE TEAM KICK OFF INVITE

Hosted By: (Name)

Date: (Insert Date)

Time: (Insert Time)

Location: (Insert Location)

Join us as we kick off our Race for Hope fundraising campaign for Gilda's Club South Florida! We will discuss: • **Team fundraising goals • Incentives and prizes • Team fundraising ideas • Race Day details • Ways to build your fundraising network**

## SAMPLE VENDOR/COMMUNITY SUPPORT LETTER

(Date)

Dear (Business Name/Contact Name),

I am participating in Gilda's Club South Florida's Race for Hope and am reaching out to ask for your support. Race for Hope is a community fundraising event that supports individuals and families impacted by cancer through the programs and services provided by Gilda's Club South Florida.

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Funds raised through Race for Hope directly support these life-changing programs and services, allowing us to continue providing compassionate care, meaningful community, and critical resources to the members we serve every day.

Any donation or contribution would be greatly appreciated.

Donation Link: (Insert Link)

Thank you for your support and generosity.

Sincerely, (Your Name)

# SAMPLE DONATION REQUEST EMAILS

## Ask #1:

Hi (Name),

I'm fundraising for Gilda's Club South Florida through Race for Hope. Gilda's Club South Florida provides free support, resources, and community for individuals and families impacted by cancer.

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I would truly appreciate your support as I work toward my fundraising goal.

Donation Link: (Insert Link)

Thank you for your support.

(Your Name)

## Ask #2: Donation Reminder

Subject: There's Still Time to Support

Race for Hope is quickly approaching and I'm still working toward my fundraising goal. Donation Link: (Insert Link) Thank you again for your support.

## Ask #3: Final Reminder

Subject: Final Push for Race for Hope

We're in the final stretch before Race for Hope and every contribution helps make a difference. Donation Link: (Insert Link)



## **GILDA'S CLUB SOUTH FLORIDA**

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### PROCEEDS BENEFIT GILDA'S CLUB SOUTH FLORIDA

Gilda's Club South Florida's mission is to uplift and strengthen people impacted by cancer by providing support, fostering compassionate communities, and breaking down barriers to care.

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