Time For Action!

Petitions drive are a fun and easy way to engage team captains, kick-off attendees, committee members and Relay For Life participants. You can show support for ACS CAN's campaign to increase medical research at the National Cancer Institute with this petition activity. Follow the steps below to make the most of your petition activity. You can do it!

Step One:

Determine the goals for your petition drive. How many petitions would you like to collect? Where would you like to collect them? How would you like to deliver the petition to lawmakers?

Step Two:

Set up a call with your RFL staff partner and discuss when and where you would like to conduct your petition drive. Contact your ACS CAN staff partner and talk through petition delivery options.

Step Three:

Come up with your personal talking points. They don't have to be elaborate. Speak from your experience.

Step Four:

Conduct your petition drive(s).

Step Five:

Give or send your completed petitions to your staff partfor submitting petition copies. DO THIS AS SOON AS POS-SIBLE so we can follow up with the new action tackers immediately.

Step Six:

Deliver the original petitions during a federal recess period in coordination with your ACS CAN staff partner. We encourage you to get as many of the signers involved in delivery as possible.



Petitioning Best Practices

- Push the table back. Get out in front of your table or booth—don't wait for people to come to you. Greet people and start talking to them. This is called active tabling.
- Walk the Track. Walk from campsite to campsite and ask participants to sign the petition.
- Use your own voice. Don't try to remember tons of facts or statistics. It can be as simple as: "Hi, my name is and I'm a Relayer/ Survivor/Caregiver. I'm here today because I want to make sure that the next cancer breakthrough is discovered. Will you sign this petition and lend your voice, along with others, that would like increased funding for cancer research through the National Cancer Institute.
- Don't forget to ask participants to share their story and provide full contact information on the petition. An name and email address is the most important information to collect.
- Let Team Captains and Committee Members know your petition drive goal and how you and others plan to deliver the petitions.
- Don't be afraid to ask family, friends and co-workers to sign the petition and/or help you collect petition signatures.

Petition Delivery Ideas

- Schedule an in-district meeting in coordination with your ACS CAN staff partner. Share your personal story as well as a couple of stories shared via the petitions and end the meeting handing over the petitions and asking the member/staff to support an increase in cancer research funding.
- Organize a PURPLE rolling walk-in day! Identify 5 volunteers who will wear their Relay For Life shirts and deliver a stack throughout the day to the legislator's district office. To bring more attention, you may want to tie a purple ribbon to each stack. Consider using large mylar balloons in the shape of letters to spell HOPE (the first delivery of the day will bring in H, the second O, the third P, and finally the E), so there is a balloon bouquet at the end of the day. .
- If you have a big stack of petitions, you may want to organize a rally with a spokesperson that can illustrate the impact of cancer research funding. Invite local media. Consider holding it a Hope Lodge or outside of the lawmakers office. Use all the RFL materials to as visuals.