

FAQ's



GENERAL

Who is Wisdom Spring?

Wisdom Spring is a non-profit 501c3 that was established in 2003, with the initial purpose of bringing awareness to water and education issues in sub-Saharan Africa. Over the years we have expanded our work to support communities in India as well.

Key to our mission is to work with teens in the United States to foster community engagement, leadership, and social awareness. Our main fundraising event, Walking for Water, is a teen-driven initiative designed to provide teens from the high schools we partner with a chance to learn about their gifts and step into the world in a different way. Our hope is that we encourage in them a willingness to look outside themselves and learn how others experience daily life. They learn about themselves while being of service to others.

What is Walking For Water?

Walking for Water is a yearly fundraising event that supports the work of Wisdom Spring. 20 years ago a teen at Heritage High School in Leesburg, VA had the idea of creating an event where people walked the distance others walk in parts of the world to collect water. She had heard a talk by our founder Sobonfu Some and was moved by her stories of living in a village in Burkina Faso, where walking miles a day to gather water is a daily activity.

Over the years we have worked with teen groups in high schools on the East and West Coasts to create this yearly event. The event helps us fund projects, but it also supports the teens in learning leadership and community engagement skills.

REGISTRATION

How can I join the event?

There are three basic ways to get involved.

- 1) You can **Participate** as a walker by clicking this link [HERE](#) or by going to the Wisdom Spring event page [HERE](#).
- 2) **Sponsor** someone who is walking. When you go to the Donation page [HERE](#) you can search for a specific person to donate to. Or have that person send you their specialized donation link.

3) **Donate** to Wisdom Spring clicking the Donate button where ever you see it.

You can do one or all 3!

Do I get my own fundraising page?

A cool feature of the Give Butter platform is that once you register for Walking for Water you receive your own fundraising page. From here you can add photos, text, and your goal for the event.

Even better is you can use that page to send out requests to sponsors who can support your fundraising mission and commit to a per-mile amount. You can also send challenges to others and engage your community!

When you are ready just go to "Share and Manage" under your Team Member icon and share the link to possible sponsors. You can also send them direct emails as well.

Creating your page is an essential step to focus your goals - so make sure you check out our tip sheets for ideas. These are in the Story section of the main Fundraiser page and on the [Wisdom Spring website](#).

Can I accept cash or a check donation?

YES. Our payment processor accepts major credit cards, as well as we can do cash through Venmo.

Checks can be made out to Wisdom Spring and sent to:

Wisdom Spring

4470 West Sunset Blvd, #90161

Los Angeles, CA 90027

I live outside of Virginia and California. Can I still participate?

YES!! YES!! YES!! You do not need to be in person to join the event. Set up your page and invite sponsors. Get per mile donations and walk from your home base.

I live outside the United States. Can I still participate?

YES!! YES!! YES!! Same as above!

Is there a required fundraising goal?

We have set a \$100 USD default goal; however, you can set your own fundraising goal. We suggest selecting an amount that may have a particular meaning to you. Just make sure to let your supporters know why you chose that goal and its significance. If you reach your goal, DON'T STOP. You can always change your goal and raise more!

What if I do not reach my goal?

We appreciate every effort! Every dollar raised will make a difference. If you need some inspiration or tips, check out our tip sheets on the Story section of the Event Page.

DONATIONS

What do I need to do to DONATE?

Go to any Donate button at wisdomspring.org or the event landing page to make a direct donation. You can pick one of our designated categories or a custom amount of your choosing.

For those interested in larger donations - the cost of a well is generally \$10,000. For donations of this size, you will have your name added to any placard made for that well when it is completed. If you are considering this size of donation please let us know so we can make sure your donation is not impacted by fees!

Do you take Corporate Sponsorships?

We do! We often collaborate with local businesses who want to sponsor the event either with funding or with in-kind support. Contact support@wisdomspring.org for more info.

I donated. Do I get a tax receipt?

A tax receipt letter is generated once your donation is processed and will be emailed to you. Please contact support if you do not receive one.

EVENT DETAILS

Is the event in person this year?

YES. The walk on the West Coast is at the Laguna Beach High School stadium on MARCH 26th, 2023, and on the East Coast at Morven Park in Leesburg, VA on JUNE 3rd, 2023.

Make sure to check the info on the landing page and at wisdomspring.org to get all the info about directions and day-of details.

Why is the event 20 miles?

Colter Johnson, one of the past teen leaders, is now an adult and wonderful filmmaker. He created a documentary called 20 Miles a Glass, exploring Wisdom Spring, our founder Sobonfu Some, and the issues of water access in various parts of the world. The film was picked up by PBS and is now in circulation in their system.

For some, walking 20 miles a day to procure water is a normal occurrence - hence the title of the film. The teens felt this was a good mileage number to use for the event - so we could understand the distances people walk to gain access to this vital resource.

Do I have to do all the 20 miles on the day of a walk?

No. People will have a week before the day of each event to complete their miles. PLENTY OF TIME!

What is the entrance fee to the in person event?

For adults, it is \$30. For students, it is \$15. If for some reason this is a hardship please contact us.

How do I access the auction?

Our Silent Auction is hosted through Give Butter and there will be a tab on the Event page.

The West Coast Auction Page and items goes live March 24th and closes 3PM PT March 26th.

The East Coast Auction Page goes live on June 1st and closes at 1pm ET June 3rd.