

# Walk -a-thon

SAMPLE

Dear FRIEND,

I am writing to tell you about a challenge I face and to ask for your help. On October 11, 2008 I will walk \_\_\_\_\_ miles in the Episcopal Charities Walkathon. The Walkathon will raise funds for Episcopal Charities, an organization dedicated to helping local efforts to house the homeless, feed the hungry, heal the addicted, educate the young, care for the sick, comfort the dying, and console the grieving.

We need your help because the problems we face as a community are vast. The statistics tell us that on any given night there are between 7,200 and 12,000 homeless people on the streets of San Francisco, between 750 and 1000 on the streets of Fremont and approximately 1200 on the streets of Berkeley. Today, Episcopal Charities responds to this need by supporting programs that provide beds for 60% of the homeless in San Francisco, 50% of the beds in Fremont and 26% of the beds in Berkeley.

Other programs supported by Episcopal Charities struggle to end the root causes of homelessness. They provide tutoring and counseling for hundreds of children of families in crisis, bring new hope to those suffering from addiction or other disabilities, and provide more than 52,000 clinic visits every year to those who can ill afford a visit to a doctor. The cost of this support is enormous. And this only addresses the homeless issue.

I plan to raise \$\_\_\_\_\_ to help Episcopal Charities and the programs it supports make a difference in the lives of people in need. And I am counting on your help to accomplish this. Please send your payment to Episcopal Charities with the enclosed Sponsor Form, or donate online at [www.episcopalcharities.org](http://www.episcopalcharities.org). Your contribution is tax-deductible.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

YOUR NAME HERE