

MEMORANDUM

To: ESVA Clubs and ESVA Officers
From: Nancy Wittenberg, 2nd Vice President and Publicity Chair
Subject: Potential Collaboration with Foster Parents Association of Washington
Date: April 10, 2010

Background:

I received an email from Bob Morrison introducing me to Mike Canfield, the Co-President of the Foster Parents Association (FPA) of Washington State, and a Vice President of the National Foster Parents Association. Mike Canfield and I had a conversation about how the FPA and volkssport clubs might benefit from collaborating.

Washington State Foster Parents Associations in various cities hold 5K walks described on the website, www.walkmehome.org to raise money and awareness for foster, adoptive and kinship care. So far, these walks have been small. The walk Mike handled last year in Bremerton had 35 participants, but they intend to grow. Money raised is handled through their website, not at the events. Participants get their friends to donate to the cause.

They have sponsors for their walks. Coca Cola is on board for this year, for instance. Newspapers in local communities advertise their walks.

How a collaboration might work:

- The FPA's walks could be Volkssport events. Although they use a 5K route, an additional 5K could be added for our required 10k.
- FPA walks are often held along with community festivals, and in good weather months.
- Volkssport clubs know how to put on a walk and often hold walks in conjunction with community festivals or with other groups.
- **All participants** would register for the volkssport event using our waiver.
- Participants would include the volkssporting public as well as those there for the FPA.
- The insurance for the walks would be our volkssport insurance.
- Walks are done on sidewalks and trails, not down the middle of a street, so the routes could fit with volkssport route types. They would be fairly easy routes.
- Volkssport literature would be included in information given to participants.
- Volkssports would be listed as a sponsor of the event and our logos used on their website. AVA's with AVA's permission per AVA's bylaws on intellectual property.
- Volkssport clubs would benefit from the publicity for the walk provided by the FPA, getting people to the walk and introducing them to our sport.
- Signage for walks could be provided by FPA.
- Other details, such as staffing would be worked out. FPA volunteers could help.

Next Steps:

The Walk Me Home website lists scheduled and potential walk locations. They include at present: Bremerton, Chehalis, Cowlitz County, Dayton, Everett, Olympia, Spokane, Tri Cities, Walla Walla, Yakima. Most do not have dates scheduled. Locations with currently scheduled dates in 2010 are Bremerton, September 6th; and, Chehalis – Lewis County Fairgrounds, May 1.

Two clubs have already been in initial contact with Mike Canfield – Capitol Volkssport Club in Olympia, and the Kitsap Volkssport Club. Next steps might include

- One or two clubs as a pilot, partnering with FPA to put on a walk, work out details and bring their experience back to other ESVA clubs.
- The ESVA could act as a facilitator between the club and the FPA to promote discussion and work out a potential Memo of Understanding.