



Friends of SoZo Kids

Community Event Fundraising Tool Kit

About Friends of SoZo Kids

- Friends of SoZo Kids Inc. is a 501c3 nonprofit. Our mission is to connect the time, talents, and treasures of Villagers and others to meet the basic, educational, and emergency needs of children and their families living in poverty in the Ocala National Forest. We do this by exclusively supporting the Help Agency of the Forest (dba SoZo Kids).

Why Host a Community Event Fundraiser to Benefit Friends of SoZo Kids?

- Friends like you and your Villages, churches, or clubs can make a difference in the lives of the SoZo Kids we serve. Friends of SoZo Kids is here to guide you in your efforts.

Community Event Fundraiser

- **Set a goal:** Deciding how much money (or how many gifts-in-kind) you want to raise helps you stay focused and lets your potential donors know they will be part of something great.
- **Here are some fundraising ideas that could work for you and your group ...**
 - **Driveway parties** with a local band have proved to be successful in collecting cash or gift-in-kind items.
 - **Village socials** – Nearly every Village has regularly scheduled social events. Contact your Social Club leaders and suggest they collect gift-in-kind items as part of the cost of admission. We can guide you to determine the most-needed gift-in-kind items for the right season.
 - **Gather your favorite group** (pickleball, cards, exercise class, etc.) and challenge members to reach a cash goal to raise funds for the Back-to-School Bash where we serve 1,000 Kids!
 - **Invite a Friends of SoZo Kids Board Member to speak** at your next meeting. Add a collection of items and cash to the opportunity.
 - **Celebrate your next birthday** and ask friends to donate cash to Friends of SoZo Kids to honor you!
 - **Have a neighborhood dinner party** and ask people to donate cash to help.
 - ... Or, just let your imagination run wild!

Need Help Promoting Your Event? We're Here for You!

- We'll design a flier for you to promote your event.
- We'll promote your event on the Friends of SoZo Kids website under our Community Events Tab. Be sure to take lots of pictures at the event so we can share them and inspire others!
- We'll promote your event on our Facebook page. Just let us know the details.
- As you start planning your own Community Event Fundraiser – or if you have questions – contact LaRae Donnellan, Community Events Manager. She's here to guide you as you plan your own Community Event Fundraiser.



LaRae Donnellan
Board Member & Community Events Manager
Friends of SoZo Kids Inc.
Loopers.Way@gmail.com
850-766-0049