



Local Charity Issues Challenge To 'Walk With Me'

One small step from you, could help raise \$40,000 for a local charity to help support Queensland children with physical disabilities.

MontroseAccess is calling on individuals and groups to register for the second Walk With Me event to be held at Corinda on Sunday September 11. The walk follows a set course through the streets of Corinda, followed by an Open Day at the spacious MontroseAccess site on the Brisbane River.

Walkers are invited to make a donation or to sponsor other walkers. Last year the event managed to raise \$35,000 and attracted more than 300 participants. The walk is designed to break down social barriers, promote exercise and nurture greater community spirit, but is also family focused with great emphasis on having fun. The Open Day features jumping castles, face painting, animal petting zoos and of course a barbeque lunch.

MontroseAccess CEO Darrel Bourke urges all residents and businesses to get behind the second annual walk and help fundraise for the Brisbane based charity.

"We have set a goal to raise \$40,000, which will assist us in supporting our families across Queensland, many of whom have no other means of regular support for their children. We are hoping for a big turnout of people to show their support for this event and for Australians living with disabilities. The walk will bring people of all abilities together while raising much-needed funds for our respite programs." Mr Bourke said.

MontroseAccess is partnering with the national body Ability First Australia for the Brisbane based Walk With Me event on Sunday September 11, 2011, which will start at 9am at Consort Street head office, followed by a family-friendly party to celebrate the achievements of walkers, ambassadors and our guest celebrities.

MontroseAccess was established in 1933 in Queensland to improve the quality of life of children living with physical disabilities. Now, with more than 600 clients across the entire state, it is a leading service provider in therapy, recreation and respite care. However, maintaining such services comes at great cost.

"It costs MontroseAccess \$10,000 per year per client to maintain its services," Mr Bourke said. "From the NSW border to the tip of Queensland, we support more than 600 clients, which is more like 2,400 people as we care for entire family units. Sadly, this number is increasing every year and we need as much support from the community as we can get."

Community members can register to walk on the day or sponsor one of the 2011 ambassadors by visiting the event website at www.walkwithme.org.au and by clicking on the links.

For more information about MontroseAccess visit the website www.montroseaccess.org.au or call (07) 3379 9200.

Disability care for kids

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