

Save The Rain

SAVE A RAINDROP. SAVE A LIFE.

**Ready to take steps so children in Africa never have to again?
Walk 15 steps, a mile, or run a 5 km and change their lives forever.**

Welcome to the Miles for Maji Campaign! “Maji” is the Swahili word for “Water”, “Miles for Maji” is a walk or run for water campaign that raises funds and awareness for children in Tanzania who currently live without access to clean water.

Originated by student supporters, Miles for Maji is a campaign designed to inspire. We are here to support you in starting a virtual campaign or organizing a walk or run in your area. No matter how many steps you take, you can Get Involved anywhere and take steps so children in Tanzania never have to again in the search for water. Be sure to check out our [Let it Rain Presentation](#) on the [Get Involved](#) page of our website. This is a great tool to teach your peers why walking for water is so important.

Planning your Miles for Maji Event :

Objective: For participants to compare their own experiences with the availability of water to those in developing countries. A fundraising component is partnered with your event, every dollar raised will go towards providing access of clean drinking water to those living in rural Tanzania, an area devastated by the global water crisis.

Presentation: Presenter (student or community member organizer) will discuss facts relating to the difficulty and sociological implications of the unavailability of water. Review statistical information regarding average distances traveled for water. Form a hypothesis about the difficulty level of performing the task of carrying a gallon of water 1 mile. We have a couple of presentations on the Get Involved page of our website that may be used, or the presenter may come up with their own. We do encourage you to share your own story while presenting, what has moved you to join Miles for Maji?

Activity Option 1, Online Fundraising: Join the Online movement. Participants will commit to taking 15 steps for every \$15 they raise carrying a bucket of water, then taking photos and/or a video recording their steps, then sharing via email or on social media with their donors (It's a hard challenge and pretty fun to do and watch!). For those interested in participating that have difficulty or cannot walk, we can discuss alternative options to involve everyone. Message campaigns@savetherain.org to discuss ideas.

Activity Option 2, Host a Community Walk for Water: Community members will be asked to gather at a designated location for a Miles for Maji group walk along a predetermined path. Containers full of water will be carried along the walk, participants may pass along containers of water or choose to carry their own for the entire duration of the walk. A Miles for Maji group discussion will happen at the start of the walk, the organizer can use the Miles for Maji presentation, a shortened modified version of the presentation, or create their own presentation. The ONLINE FUNDRAISING page can be modified to share that your steps will be taken at this community event, you can edit the text under ‘My Project’ or reach out to us for support with this. A registration component can be added for a “race” style event, suggested registration fee would be \$15. To add a registration component, or with help editing your Online fundraising page please contact campaigns@savetherain.org.

Activity Option 3, Change for Change Get your School Involved: Student organizer(s) will present to their peers. They will then ask fellow students, teachers, and administrators to join them in a Miles for Maji day. As an example, participants will be asked to fill gallon containers with water and to carry it with them throughout a portion of the school day. Administration should agree to the activity and date in advance. To raise funds, the event organizer should find teachers willing to host their classroom as a change donation locations. This means the teacher agrees to have a container in their classroom which is a designated coin donation center. You can make fun signs for the containers, or we can provide you with one. Students, teachers, and administrators can donate their change into the container leading up to and during the duration of the event. Penny wars is a fun competitive angle to get those coin jugs filled quickly! In partnership, we can help you come up with fun prizes for the class that collects the most coins. If you are not granted permission to have Change for Change collections in your school, have no fear! An Online fundraising component can be organized in addition to this, or in place of (see activity option 1). We can also help you fund-raise off-line by providing you with pledge sheets. Be sure to have permission from your schools Administrator! For a great example of what it looks like to get your school involved, check out this awesome video provided to us by a supporting school highlighting their efforts! <https://youtu.be/ZnHbTxWmlw>

Option 4, Get Creative!: Rather than host a walk, you could organize a mile race, relay, or any other creative spin you'd like to put on your event! We'd love to discuss your ideas! Check out this video from a supporting student group highlighting their campaign efforts! <https://youtu.be/uz3J1FMGnmc>

Materials:

For Activity 1-4- You will need a presentation and captured audience.

For your convenience we have a couple of prepared presentation for you to use, they can be found here: <https://www.savetherain.org/get-involved/#resources>

We encourage you to tell the story in your own words, and to share why you were moved to get involved!

For Activity #2- The organizer will need to determine how many containers of water will be carried during the walk, who will provide the containers, how will they be filled and disposed of. For community based events, you can often find local sponsors to provide snacks and even raffle prizes for added entertainment value! Hosting raffles or selling Save the Rain merchandise at your event or during the time leading up to it is another great way to bring in additional funds. We can assist you in asking for donations by providing you with a 501c3 donation letter. If you'd like to sell Save the Rain merchandise, please contact us via email and we can make arrangements. campaigns@savetherain.org

For Activity #3- Participants will need to bring in clean, empty gallon jugs from home to carry with them throughout the day. The organizer will pre-determine the amount of time the participants must carry their jug, as well as when and where they should be filling and responsibly disposing of the water (Be green! Drink it or water a plant!).

Post Activities:

Facilitate a discussion: What was our Water Walk meant to simulate? Is anyone better able to empathize with people living in water starved conditions after the activity? Why or why not? What words would you use to describe the Water Walk? Was it easier or more difficult than you expected? If you were walking to collect water in a country facing a water crisis, what other challenges might you face? Review the statistics again regarding gallons needed and miles carried by people living in Africa.

Send Thanks: Be sure to send a warm thank you to all participants and donors. And remember, *"Never believe that a few caring people can't change the world. For, indeed, that's all who ever have."* – Margaret Mead