Watch Party Planning Toolkit

Local watch parties are a key strategy for increasing the impact of the REACH Together 2025 initiative — a great way to help **raise awareness, share hope and encourage partnerships**.

Some local friends and family will attend the LIVE Broadcast from a church in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Most others — individuals and households — will livestream the national REACH Party 2025 Broadcast from their personal phone or computer in their homes. Many will have fun rallying a group (small or large) to watch together.

If you are reading this now, you are probably thinking about inviting others to watch this wonderful event along with you at home. We want to THANK you for being a Watch Party host! You are an encourager and valuable partner in making the most of REACH Together 2025!

This toolkit provides suggestions and resources for making your Watch Party as successful as possible. Whether you'll be attending in person at the Broadcast Site or viewing REACH Party 2025 online, please consider helping build excitement and awareness by promoting the event on your own social media and within your circle of connections (e.g., text messages).

Starting with planning your party through the day-of festivities and event wrap up, you'll find tips, strategies and resources for actively engaging your guests and enjoying a fun, meaningful experience together.

Questions? Email Brooke@walkrightin.org

GET READY!

Make sure your city appears on the REACH Together Map by completing the Watch Party registration form.

Choose your location.

Choosing a location for your Watch Party depends on your vision for outreach, how many people you would like to invite, the vibe you want to create and where everyone can view the REACH Party livestream together.

- Would you have room to invite one (or more) other couple/family to join your immediate family in watching the broadcast, even as you go about your typical routine (e.g., caregiving)?
- Might you be able to stir interest or support for the caregiving community with extended family, some friends or neighbors, your pastor, church or other friends?
- What caregiving families in your neighborhood, workplace, church or other networks could you encourage?
- Who do you know that might have interest or ability to partner with Walk Right In Ministries in reaching more and more families with wellness resources and true hope?

Note: If your home is not accessible but you want to include a guest in a wheelchair, consider throwing your Watch Party in your driveway around a fire pit or under the cover of your garage. Please try to honor accessibility for your guests (mobility, sensory, dietary).

#REACHTOGETHER

EXAMPLE
REACH Party AGENDA

5:00 pm — **Gathering, Mingling & Auction**

5:30 pm — **Fellowship Meal**
Create your own menu, potluck or pie buffet.

5:45 pm — **Local Caregiver Story**
While guests are enjoying their meal, introduce a local family impacted by disability and hear some of their story of challenge, gratitude and growth.

6:00 pm — **REACH Party Livestream**
View LIVE (starting at 5:55 pm) from Walk Right In Ministries' Facebook Profile or YouTube channel.

7:00 pm — **Pie-in-the-Face & Auction Finale!**
Your guests can participate virtually in the online Silent Auction by bidding on great items and watching WRIM founders and Board members get pie'd in the face! Bidding opens September 1st and will continue until the closing bell rings at 7 pm Central on October 11th.

facebook YouTube

Personalize a local family caregiving story for your guests.

Consider having a caregiver from your family or local community share a personal story that builds awareness about some basic needs but highlights the blessings of being part of a loved one's caregiving team. (This could be something from your own story, your spouse or even one of the special siblings in your household.)

Plan your Watch Party schedule and menu.

You will need to build out your local agenda with an eye toward which parts of the national REACH Party you want to mirror.

Will you serve a meal, just simple snacks, maybe dessert? You could make your event a potluck or even ask people to bring their own picnic.

Perhaps you'd like to include a pie theme. **The Walk Right In community has a lot of fun with our passion for pie.** A local bakery or grocery store might donate pies for your event. You could invite guests to contribute to a pie buffet or even create a homemade pie competition where everyone gets to taste and place a vote for their favorite! Another option is to participate in the Silent Auction and Pie-in-the-Face Finale! being shared LIVE from the Broadcast site.

Please contact us if you'd like to add a local option to the online Silent Auction!

Prepare your Watch Party logistics.

Ensure you will have a reliable internet connection. Consider what equipment you may need (e.g., tv monitors/screen, chairs and tables). Make sure you have access to a large enough monitor for your audience to see and a sufficient sound system for them to hear the livestream from Facebook or YouTube. If you will be hosting a larger group, you may want to rent a screen or secure a space (perhaps by partnering with a church or other community partner) that already has the technology on site.

Send invitations.

We have provided some easy-to-share graphics for your social media, personal texting and other communications. On the SHAREABLES page you will find a general event flyer, print a customizable invitation and much more.

Add details for your local event in the captions of your social media posts.

EXAMPLE TEXT INVITE

Today 8:27 AM

I/we want to invite you to dinner and a fun evening at our house. We are going to be participating in a celebration called #REACHTogether put on by Walk Right In Ministries. It's an initiative that celebrates the stories of caregivers and their families impacted by disability while working to keep caregiver resources visible and accessible around the world. Our family has been part of the WRIM community for about [HOW LONG?]. We're excited to hear encouraging stories, build faith and shine Light on the power of belonging. The party at our house starts at 5 pm Saturday, October 11th. We'll share a light dinner and pie buffet and watch the live REACH Party broadcast. We'd be grateful if you could bring a pie to share but that is totally optional. If you want to know more about REACH Together or Walk Right In Ministries, get all the details here: https://walkrightin.org/events/reach-party/.

HAVE FUN!

Engage your personal community, enjoy each other and keep learning together.

Throughout the REACH Together season of celebration, awareness and giving, there are several ways you can help build awareness and encourage participation. Please join us in as many of these ways as you are able!

More ways to help spread the word:

- **Post a selfie** on social media with a message that encourages others to participate in REACH Together 2025
- **Text friends and family** with information, an invitation and reminders about ways they can participate
- **Print the REACH Together flyer to share** with neighbors, family, friends, pastors, and others
- **Attach the REACH Together flyer to an email** with your personal endorsement and invitation to participate
- **Send the REACH Party invitation** to the group of personal guests you have identified
- **Consider sending the #REACHTogether press release to local media and invite them** to cover your local event. Designate a spokesperson who is well-versed in disability and caregiving issues. Familiarity with Walk Right In Ministries is also valuable.

GET SHARABLES FOR SOCIAL MEDIA AND MORE TOOLS!

Here are some **talking points** that could be helpful for a host or designated spokesperson:

- 29% of the U.S. population provides care for a loved one who has complex, long-term care needs for at least 20 hours per week.
- 78% of adults living in the community and in need of long-term care depend on family and friends as their only source of help.
- Family caregivers report significant difficulty finding wellness support that is relatable, reliable, credible, financially accessible, and aligned with their faith or values.
- These families are consumed with navigating medical and therapeutic interventions, health insurance, education, social services, employment, housing issues, church belonging and more — often feeling emotionally and spiritually alone facing disappointment, weariness or even burnout.
- Many have unanswered questions about God's purposes in suffering and want to know more about what the Bible has to say about disability.
- Walk Right In Ministries is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization founded in 2008 whose mission is to help caregivers in families impacted by disability to walk abundantly in life, faith and relationships.
- Walk Right In Ministries offers faith-based online caregiver support groups as well as individual and family coaching and counseling that is specific for their unique caregiving family system.
- **Caregiving is complicated. Finding encouragement, hope and purpose should not be complicated.**

Scan for details!

EXAMPLE TEXT

Today 2:43 PM

I'm so grateful you were with us for the REACH Party! Thank you for enthusiastically celebrating the caregiving experience. We appreciate all the ways you invest in our family and the #REACHTogether spirit year-round. If you still want to share a gift, you can visit https://walkrightin.org/giving/ or text 833-856-9106. You could even help us build more awareness by sharing the recording of REACH Party 2025 now available on Walk Right In Ministries' YouTube channel. Blessings, friend!

Walk Right In MINISTRIES

WRAP IT UP!

Thank your guests.

After your event, please reach out to those you shared this experience with and thank them for attending. A simple email or text message will be great. Let your family and friends know what it meant to you to celebrate the vision with them. Remind them of WRIM's mission and encourage them to tell others about resources available. Share the recording of REACH Party 2025 and invite them to share the celebration with others too. (Find the link on our YouTube channel on October 12th, 2025.)

Report back.

We would love to hear about your Watch Party and REACH Together experience! Please consider taking 3 or 4 minutes to complete the REACH Together Feedback Questionnaire.

Also, do YOU or someone you know have an encouraging, faith-building or educational story to share about being a caregiver in a family impacted by disability? We would love to hear it and potentially share it as part of the REACH Together initiative! If you would be willing to share, please visit our website to **Tell Us Your Story**.

Your feedback helps us learn how to support hosts in future years and it help us highlight the incredible impact of this important initiative! Thank you for completing the survey and sharing your experience — what went well, what you wish had gone differently, what you learned, what WRIM can learn, how we can improve future REACH events, how WRIM supports worked for you.

Thank you!