

Fundraising for MPS Society

RESEARCH | AWARENESS | SUPPORT



MPS Society

transforming lives through
support, research & awareness

Society for Mucopolysaccharide Diseases
mpssociety.org.uk

Hello, and thank you for choosing to fundraise for us!

We're so glad that you've chosen to support the MPS Society as people like you really help us to make a difference. In our guide, you'll find lots of useful information and tips to help you with your fundraising activities. You can also visit our website at mpsociety.org.uk for even more inspiration.



Thank you so much for fundraising for the MPS Society.

Your support is essential to us as we are the only UK charity working with individuals and families affected by MPS, Fabry and related lysosomal conditions.

Why your fundraising matters

As a small charity, we rely on wonderful people like you to raise funds so we can transform the lives of those affected by MPS, Fabry and related lysosomal conditions. It costs around £1.1 million each year to provide our vital services, which include specialist support, information and advocacy.

MPS, Fabry and related lysosomal diseases are rare, genetic conditions that cause progressive physical and/or neurological deterioration. There is currently no cure, but by using your money to raise awareness of these diseases, families can receive an earlier diagnosis and start receiving treatment.

Thank you!

338

Our online social hub connects 338 members through shared experiences and peer support.

486

Last year alone, we provided personalised one-to-one support to 486 members.



1821

1821 members have access to our support service which provides practical and emotional support on topics such as benefits, social care and education, alongside expert clinics, school talks and home visits.

Making a difference



“

There was no cure or treatment when I was diagnosed, but with the research largely funded by the MPS Society, eventually a treatment was developed that increases my energy levels, straightens my joints and helps me to start to grow again.



“

Through the MPS Society, I was able to access counselling support from RareMinds which has been so helpful.

“

The MPS Society has supported us emotionally when the weight of everything felt unbearable, helped us navigate practical challenges and connected us with other families who truly understood what we were going through. That sense of community has meant everything.



Top fundraising ideas

Looking for some inspiration?
Here are some of our favourite fundraising ideas.

Quiz night

Create your own quiz and hold it at a pub, social club or even your own lounge. Charge a fee, provide some snacks and raffle off some great prizes.

Party

Whether you're throwing a party for a birthday, anniversary, a special occasion or simply because you want to get all your family and friends together, charge an entry fee, add some collection boxes and voila, you're holding a charity party.

Fundraising ball

Invite everyone you know, as well as local businesses and maybe a celebrity (if you know one). Fundraising balls are great for raising funds and awareness and we can provide loads of exciting ideas for the night.

Garden party

An easy way to make your friends admire your plush lawn and beautiful flowers. Add in a plant sale, sell some snacks and provide some bubbly. Lovely.

Car wash

Ever think your neighbours are neglecting their cars? Organise a car wash, charge a fee and make sure everyone knows what great cause you are raising money for.

Sports day

Re-live your school days with some eggs, spoons and three legs. Don't forget the hula hoops! Charge an entrance fee, and make sure you have some nostalgic prizes for the race winners.



Sporty challenges

Whether you're looking for a fun way to get active or a challenge that pushes your limits, there's something for everyone.



Race for rare

We have lots of places in races such as the London Marathon, Great North Run and Royal Parks Half Marathon. These events are such a great way to raise vital funds while undertaking a truly rewarding challenge.

Challenge events

Whether you are looking to climb the highest mountains, skydive or attack a hardcore obstacle course, we can help find a challenge that is right for you and support you along the way.



Active April

Every April we want you to get fit with us and raise £50 by walking, running, cycling or swimming 50km. Set a goal and make April a month full of energy, purpose and generosity.

Mini Avengers

Get your child to accept our mission to complete one mile a day their superhero way in August. You'll receive a free challenge sticker pack and tracker for a successful take off as well as a mask, medal and certificate once the mission has been accomplished.



Sweet success



Bake for rare

Bake the world a better place and host your own bake sale. Order your free fundraising pack so you'll have everything you knead to get cracking and raise some dough, including two delicious recipes, bunting and posters.

Weekly Lucky Lottery

Big prizes, bigger impact. Enter our Weekly Lucky Lottery for just £1 a week and you could win amazing prizes every Friday with the jackpot at £25K! At least 50p from every £1 comes directly to us. Players must be aged 18 or over, terms and conditions apply.

In memory

Leave a gift in your will

By leaving a gift in your will, no matter how big or small, you are making a difference to the lives of our members by ensuring we can continue to offer expert guidance and information.

Create a tribute page

We have partnered with MuchLoved, the UK's leading in-memory platform, to offer dedicated bereavement tribute pages. If you choose, you can also create a fundraising event where friends and family can donate in memory, supporting our work in a meaningful way.

MPS Awareness Week

Join us for MPS Awareness Week every May to help raise awareness of MPS. This is a really important week where we aim to reach as many people as possible with our life-saving messages. You can take part in many ways such as bucket collecting or organising a Wear it Blue event.



Fundraise in your community

Fundraising is even more powerful when your community gets involved. Here are some ideas on how you can bring people together and maximise your impact.



Schools

Fundraising is a great way to work together, be creative and have fun. Cake sales, talent shows and Wear it Blue days encourage children to fundraise and can teach them about teamwork, compassion and responsibility.

Local community

There are so many things you can do in your local community, request a collection tin or organise a bucket collection, nominate us for your local supermarket charity scheme or plan a charity event in your community or community group.

Have you thought about volunteering?

We're always looking for volunteers to join our marathon cheer squads, collect donations at community events or represent us in your local area and help raise awareness. Find the latest volunteer opportunities and learn how to get involved on our website.



£104

Visit to a family

£104 could pay the travel for a support officer to visit an affected family providing vital, face-to-face emotional support.

Towersey Morris Men and Haddenham Mummers continue 35-year legacy

Together, Towersey Morris Men and the Haddenham Mummers have been raising funds for the MPS Society for more than 35 years in memory of Andy and Jenny Hardy's son, Matthew, who had MPS II Hunter and sadly died aged 13. Through traditional Morris dancing performances, Mummers' plays, community events and charity collections, the groups have raised thousands of pounds to support research and the wider MPS community, continuing a long-standing connection that began during Matthew's lifetime.



Fundraise at work

This is a powerful way to bring teams together, strengthen relationships and foster a sense of community. Through a variety of engaging events and campaigns, employees can connect with meaningful causes while having fun. We are here to help you get started.

Staff fundraising

We can help design a bespoke calendar of events to suit your team. Whether your staff are keen runners, expert bakers or looking for a team building activity we have something for everyone. Don't forget to ask your company to match any fundraising efforts – it's a great boost for your team and your funds.

Charity of the year

By selecting the MPS Society as your *Charity of the Year*, you can help your company stand out as a responsible and ethical choice for customers. *Charity of the Year* is invaluable to small charities like ours and a shared cause can really help bring your team together.

Payroll giving scheme

A simple, tax-effective way for your team members to support a charity they love. Donations are taken directly from salaries before tax and National Insurance are deducted, so it costs less to give more. Regular donations mean we can plan ahead and budget for the future.

£5,000

Support for 23 families

£5,000 will give tailored support to transform the lives of 23 people living with MPS, Fabry and related conditions.



Snugburys Ice Cream raised over £14,000 by choosing the MPS Society as Charity of the Year

To support their family friend's son Freddie, who has MPS IIIA, sister-trio Hannah, Kitty and Cleo chose the MPS Society as the beneficiary of their giant 45ft straw Paddington Bear sculpture. Through donation points across their farm, ice cream sales and special fundraising initiatives like their sunflower field, the Snugburys team raised an incredible £14,000. Simply amazing!



Organising your event

Before you get started, take a look at our handy checklist to make sure you are well prepared for your activity or event.

- ☐ **Name your event** A snappy name will generate more attention and bring in more support for your event.
- ☐ **Set a target** Having a goal in mind is important and working towards that goal (whether you are fundraising as an individual or in a team) will motivate you and keep you going
- ☐ **Set the date and location** Be realistic. How soon can you be ready and what do you need to do in order to set everything up in time? Book your venue way in advance and keep an eye on the weather if your event is going to be outside.
- ☐ **Promotion** Tell all of your friends, family and colleagues that you are going to be raising money for the MPS Society, put up posters and post details about your event on social media (Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, Snapchat, YouTube). You could even get your local newspaper or radio station involved.
- ☐ **Set up a JustGiving page** or use Facebook Fundraising. It's easy to set up an online page which you can share with everyone you know to promote your event and raise funds. To set up a JustGiving page, go to [justgiving.com/charity/sfmd](https://www.justgiving.com/charity/sfmd)
- ☐ **Materials** Check you have everything you need for your event. We can supply you with posters, collection buckets, sponsorship forms, stickers, branded promotional items and more. You can also download materials from our website or visit our online shop.
- ☐ **Boost your funds** Encourage people to add Gift Aid to their donation to make it go further – Gift Aiding increases the value of the donation by 25%! You could also check if your company has a matched giving scheme (most do).
- ☐ **Have fun** Most importantly, enjoy your event! Take photos and videos and get as many people involved as you can. Your event will not only raise money for the MPS Society, it will also raise awareness of who we are and what we do.

A huge thank you from all
of us at the MPS Society
and from all of our families
for your incredible support!



Be safe, be legal

We want you to have loads of fun and raise as much money as possible, but it's also very important to fundraise in a safe and legal way. If you need help with any of the below, please get in touch.

Budgeting

Keep up to date records of any funds received (or pledged) and a record of all activities you carried out in order to raise that money.

Logo and charity numbers

For copies of our logo, email fundraising@mpsociety.org.uk for permission. Our logos have to display our registered charity numbers (Charity no. 1143472 and Scotland SCO41012).

Insurance

In some cases you may be required to take out your own insurance to cover your event. Get in touch if you have any questions about this.

Licences

Check in with us or with your local council at [direct.gov.uk](https://www.direct.gov.uk) as you may need a special licence or permit, e.g. for collections, alcohol, public entertainment licences, lotteries and raffles. For lotteries and raffles, you might find it helpful to look at the Gambling Commission's guide at [gamblingcommission.gov.uk](https://www.gamblingcommission.gov.uk).

Health and safety

Take a moment to think about health and safety for all involved in your event. Check you have sufficient first aid supplies and enough trained first aiders for the scale of your event and that all food hygiene regulations are adhered to. For current food hygiene rules, visit [food.gov.uk](https://www.food.gov.uk). You should also consider and inform your participants about any hazards, risks or health requirements in advance. The MPS Society cannot accept liability for any loss, damage or injury suffered by you or anyone else as a result of taking part in a fundraising event.

If possible, try to make it clear that you are raising funds for the MPS Society and that you are not an actual representative of the charity.

Consider the environment

- Opt for recyclable paper or cardboard fundraising materials like flags, banners or streamers.
- Only print what you need and re-use or recycle where possible.
- Choose local events with less travel involved - it's better for your carbon footprint.
- Swap balloon releases for planting seeds or a sapling.

Sending in your money

You can pay your money to the MPS Society safely and securely by using one of the following methods. The sooner you send in your money, the sooner we can put it to good use and of course send you a thank you for all your hard work.

Online

Visit mpsociety.org.uk/donate and fill out the online donation form. If you are using an online fundraising page like JustGiving, the money comes to us automatically, safely and securely, no action required.

Bank transfer

Pay money directly into our bank:
Society for Mucopolysaccharide Diseases
Sort code: 20-02-06
Account no: 33986306
Use your full name as a reference and send us an email so we know to expect the payment.

By post

Send in a cheque along with your name and details of your event. Make cheques payable to MPS Society and post to:

The Fundraising Team,
MPS Society, MPS House,
Repton Place, White Lion Road,
Amersham, Buckinghamshire
HP7 9LP

Please do not send cash in the post.

If you're eligible we can claim Gift Aid on your behalf and boost your donation by 25%. Download a Gift Aid form from our website.

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Together we can transform lives

We need you now more than ever. For our work to become a reality, please consider supporting us, through a regular donation, taking part in one of our many challenge events, getting your company involved or volunteering your time.



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