What is the event?   CSUN NCOD will host its 2nd Annual Sign n’ Run event and festival on April 19, 2009. The 5K walk/run/roll will be held on the campus of Cal State Northridge to support programs at CSUN.

Why?   To celebrate our rich heritage - American Sign Language, Deaf Culture, and our sign language users community of people from all walks of life.

Who should be involved?   Everyone!  Deaf, hard of hearing and hearing people ages 0-101!  Students, faculty, staff, alumni, families, children, CODAs, KODAs, students learning ASL, interpreters, neighbors, allies - anyone who is interested.  People who are fluent signers, people who are learning to sign, and people who don’t sign at all!

What for?   To raise funds to enhance current and future CSUN programs for deaf and hard of hearing students, students who plan to be involved as teachers, interpreters, service providers as well as in-service training for service providers.  Your donations create exciting opportunities for students who need financial support and enhance programs for whole student development through exemplary education and co-curricular experiences such as leadership conferences, mentoring programs, and community service internships.

Who is CSUN NCOD?   Located in the San Fernando Valley just north of Los Angeles, CSUN is focused regionally and recognized nationally for its innovative academic leadership.  CSUN has an enrollment of 35,000 students and is a community of 1,000+ sign language users.  The National Center on Deafness (NCOD) is a program that supports student access and success in their journeys through college towards their destinations - careers and community participants.

Do I have to run?   No, you can walk, trot, gallop, or be a user of a stroller or a wheelchair.  Run only if you want to!

I don’t sign….should I come?   Definitely!  This is for everyone.  There will be voice and sign language interpreters for the program.

What is the program?   The program begins with registration and the 5K run/walk/roll with 1,000 participants followed by an ASL/Deaf Culture Festival with entertainment and exhibit booths.

How much should I earn?   Each participant sets his/her individual fundraising goal, and $250.00 is suggested.  This is 15 donors at $25 each.  Some may give more and some may give less.  You can decide your goal.  Any amount you raise is greatly appreciated.  There will be prizes and recognition for the highest level earners.
What will I get as a participant? The satisfaction of being part of a great event and the pride of being part of the community. You will see old friends and make new friends. You will be doing a vital community service. Participants will get mementos. Donations are tax-deductible.

What do I do as a participant?
1. Register as a participant. (See “Read Me First”)
2. Set your fundraising goal for this event. The goal is $250 per participant, but any amount raised will be appreciated.
3. Ask for contributions to reach your fundraising goal. Go to the sponsorship link and download the form for recording sponsors.
4. Recruit other participants (your friends, classmates, relatives, neighbors, etc.) to join the run/walk/roll too. You can walk as an individual or as part of a team.

What are “sponsors”? Sponsors are people who give money to the 5K participants. Sponsors can also be organizations or programs or companies who wish to support the event with funds, in-kind donations, or help match the donations of their employees or their members.

What are “team leaders”? Team leaders are individuals who organize a team of individual participants to run/walk/roll together to represent a specific class (HS or college) or a club or their workplace or their program. Team leaders help to recruit more participants for the team and raise more funds. Team leaders help to share information, answer questions, and encourage the participants. Families can also be considered a team!

Will there be prizes? Yes! Prizes and recognition will go to the individuals and teams who earn the most in sponsorships.

How old should the walkers be? Any age, from 1 to 101! Participants 13 and over are encouraged to register and solicit sponsors. Participants 12 and under just join in and have fun!

Will there be child care? No, this is a family event and children can participate with their families.

Where should I park my car? If you park on campus, there is a $5 parking fee at all times. Lots G-3 and G-4 are recommended. See the campus map at http://www.csun.edu/maps.

Who needs to register and pay the $10 fee? All participants, of all ages, must register and have a completed Insurance Waiver form. Participants over 13 need to pay $10 and turn in their sponsorship forms and checks. Participants under 18 must also have their forms signed by their parents or legal guardians.
I can’t participate but I want to help! How?
There are 3 ways:
* Write a check for $10, $25, $50, $100 or more to CSUN/NCOD. Your support will help defray the expenses of this festival and increase the amount earned for the NCOD scholarship and program fund. Your gift is tax-deductible and will become a gift that keeps giving!
* Ask other people to support the CSUN Sign n’ Run event by donating or participating.
* Serve as part of our network of recruiters and volunteers for the event.

How do I start?
1. Click on the link for the REGISTRATION FORM. Complete it and email to ncod@csun.edu so we know how many people to plan the event for. Also print out the form and send it with the INSURANCE WAIVER form and the registration fee of $10 (check payable to CSUN/NCOD) to the address at the bottom of the registration form.
2. Download the SPONSOR FORM and begin asking for donations (checks are preferred to cash) and listing the names of the donors and email addresses on the SPONSOR FORM.
3. You can bring the completed sponsor form and checks/cash to the NCOD office in advance, or you can bring it with you when you sign in on April 19.

Note: After you sign in and turn in all of the necessary forms and $$, you will receive authorization to participate in the 5K.

What do I do on April 19? Registration and sign-ins are required for all participants. This starts at 8:30am at NCOD. Please view the program schedule for the day’s events.

Questions? Ideas? Volunteers? Let us know! Email us at ncod@csun.edu with “Sign n’ Run” in the subject line or call us at (818) 677-7045 tty/vp/v.

Want a booth? Or become a C-SUNNY sponsor? C-SUNNY sponsors get good visibility and free information tables. Contact Gary Sanderson at (818) 677-7045 tty/vp/v or at gary.sanderson@csun.edu.