



General Information About (your chapter name here)

National AMBUCS™, Inc. is a non-profit service organization consisting of a diverse group of men and women who are dedicated to creating mobility and independence for people with disabilities.

The (your chapter name here) is the AMBUCS chapter serving the (your service area). Founded in (establishment date here), this group is dedicated to the philanthropic and volunteer mission of the national AMBUCS organization.

General Information About Amtryke

The fun and freedom of riding your own bike is something everyone should be able to enjoy. Now, thanks to the **Amtryke adaptive tricycle**, even individuals who are unable to operate a traditional bike can finally realize this wonderful experience.

Established in 1994, Amtryke, LLC is a company owned and operated by National AMBUCS™, Inc. AMBUCS is a national non-profit service organization dedicated to creating mobility and independence for people with disabilities.

To date, over 15,300 Amtryke vehicles have been distributed around the world. The majority of these Trykes are purchased by volunteer members of the AMBUCS organization and donated free of charge to financially needy children.

These unique tricycles, which can be hand and/or foot operated, are designed to accommodate riders of all ages, sizes, and varying degrees of physical limitations.

Both physical and occupational therapists acknowledge the Amtryke tricycle's many therapeutic benefits, citing improved motor skills, strength development and self-esteem.



Dear “Future Rider” and Family,

Welcome and congratulations on the decision to pursue the fun and excitement of bike riding at home and in the community via Amtryke! We, the (your chapter name here), are the local chapter of the national charitable organization, AMBUCS, and our goal is to provide assistance for the purchase of customized, therapeutic tricycles for children and adults in (your service area here).

Your therapist will obtain the necessary measurements and help you to pick the best Amtryke option for you or your child. Your therapist is encouraged to consult the Amtryke® catalogue that can be found online (www.amtrykestore.org) or ask members of (your chapter name here) (chapter email) for advice on best fit and needed adaptive accessories.

Our volunteer-run chapter meets monthly to update the Wish List. *Please allow 3-4 weeks for us to process the information provided for new entries to the Wish List.*

Our group participates in fundraising events throughout the year to benefit our Wish List Fund. As funds become available, the “Future Rider” with the earliest Wish List placement date will be first to receive his or her Amtryke®. We also encourage you to actively fundraise. **Any money you raise will go directly to the purchase of your child’s bike.** If you collect money from friends and family, checks can be made out to “chapter information here” with the future rider’s name in the memo. Please note- we cannot place an order until the entire amount is available. If you would like updates on your fundraising progress please contact (chapter treasurer information)

Bikes are delivered to children through organized “bike giveaway” events throughout the year. If you have self-paid for your child’s bike or if your bike is to be delivered at a time other than an organized event, we will work with your family to determine a neutral location in the (your service area) to deliver your bike. Through our wish list process, our chapter can provide your child’s bike at a discounted rate, receive, and assemble the bike, and provide a licensed therapist to complete the fitting. Please keep this in mind and be flexible when determining a location for bike pick up/delivery.

We know raising money can be difficult and we want you to know we are here to help! We this packet, we also have provided fundraising ideas to help you and your family. If you have questions, please contact us at the addresses below.

Best wishes for success in fundraising,

The members of the (your chapter information here) AMBUCS Chapter



FUNDRAISING IDEAS

ASK

A face-to-face conversation is the most personal approach when asking for large donations. Encourage people to donate whatever they can- every dollar will count towards your Amtryke!

Talk to friends, family, your neighbors, your dentist, your hair stylist or *anyone*. Try asking members of your church and your co-workers. Asking close friends and family to spread the word about your fundraising efforts will also help you increase donations and achieve your goal! Remember that *everyone* is a potential donor; you just have to ask!

SEND A LETTER OR AN EMAIL

Your address book is a great resource for potential donors! A personalized letter is perfect for out-of-town friends and family. Keep it short and sincere, and people will respond. Writer's block? You can find a sample letter enclosed in this packet.

START DIALING

A phone call is a quick, simple way to ask for donations from those people you might not feel comfortable sending a letter or email but are unable to meet with face-to-face. Be friendly and casual and remember to remain gracious and sincere. If they agree to donate, show your appreciation by sending a thank you note or personal letter.

BE CREATIVE

Don't be afraid to think outside-the-box! Consider:

- ❑ asking your favorite local restaurant to place a jar at the register for change donations
- ❑ asking local groups, such as professional or religious organizations, if you can make a presentation at their next meeting
- ❑ hanging a poster at work that charts your progress
- ❑ holding a garage sale, bake sale or car wash to raise money
- ❑ asking the local movie theater to donate tickets, and sell them for donations
- ❑ seeing if your hometown newspaper or church and school newsletters will write a story about you, highlighting your fundraising efforts and why you want a bike
- ❑ host an "un-birthday" party and request guests bring donations towards your bike in lieu of a gift



SAMPLE FUNDRAISING LETTER

Dear [Recipient's Name]:

Do you remember what it was like when you first rode your own bicycle? The fun and sense of freedom you felt? Unfortunately, those individuals who cannot ride a standard bicycle often miss out on this wonderful experience.

[Write a short paragraph about you or your child's limitations that prevent you from utilizing a standard bicycle, and why you want an adaptive bicycle of your own. If you or your child has gotten to trial an AmTryke adaptive bicycle, you can describe what that experience was like as well.]

With the assistance of the (your chapter name here) chapter of AMBUCS, [I / my child] has the opportunity to receive [my / his / her] very own bicycle. [My / my child's] bicycle will cost [dollar amount] to purchase. With the help of generous donors such as you, we will be able to obtain [my / my child's] bicycle more quickly.

Any amount you can share will be put directly towards the cost of [my / my child's] bicycle. Your gift will make it possible for [me / my child] to experience the fun and freedom of riding a bike of [my / his / her] own. Please send your donation in the enclosed envelope, or visit www.ambucs.org to learn more about the AMBUCS organization and make a donation online. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Sincerely,

[Name}

