



SMILE HERO

TOOLKIT

**FOR TEACHERS AND
ADMINISTRATORS**

BE A SMILE HERO



A **step-by-step guide** on how elementary schools can **impact the lives of children** around the world by participating in the **Operation Smile Shamrock Final Mile.**

WHAT IS OPERATION SMILE?

Operation Smile is an international non-profit organization that uses its global community of volunteers and staff to provide access to free, high-quality surgical care where it's needed most. Since 1982, Operation Smile has performed hundreds of thousands of safe surgeries on patients living in low- and middle-income countries around the world who were born with cleft lip, cleft palate, and other facial conditions.

WHAT IS OPERATION SMILE SHAMROCK FINAL MILE?

Every March, Operation Smile teams up with J&A Racing to host thousands of elementary school students from all over the Hampton Roads area, gathering at the Virginia Beach Oceanfront to run the final mile of the Shamrock Marathon. The Operation Smile Shamrock Final Mile is the culmination of an ongoing global education program and a running/walking program for elementary school children. Students learn about the importance of developing lifelong fitness habits as well as see the impact they can have in bettering the lives of children around the world.

IMPORTANT DATES



RACE PACKET PICKUP

Noon to 9pm:
Virginia Beach Convention Center



OPERATION SMILE SHAMROCK FINAL MILE

9:30am: Operation Smile pre-race
celebration on the 31st Street Stage
11am: Start Time



CONTACT

If you have any questions or need help from
Operation Smile, please contact

Pete Hansen: pete.hansen@operationsmile.org

HEROES VS VILLAINS CHANGE WAR

Operation Smile provides a platform for elementary schools and their students to fundraise around the Operation Smile Shamrock Final Mile.

For this year's Operation Smile Shamrock Final Mile, we're excited to announce the Heroes vs Villains Change War! Operation Smile would like to challenge every grade level at every participating school to raise a minimum of \$240.

WITH EVERY

\$240 **THAT'S
RAISED,**

**A CHILD LIVING WITH A CLEFT CONDITION
WILL RECEIVE A **LIFE-CHANGING**
SURGERY!**

HOW CAN YOUR SCHOOL PARTICIPATE IN THE

HEROES VS VILLAINS

CHANGE WAR?

STEP 1

GET CONTAINERS THAT CAN HOLD LARGE AMOUNTS OF CHANGE AND ASSIGN ONE CONTAINER FOR EACH GRADE LEVEL IN YOUR SCHOOL.

TIP: CLEAR PLASTIC WATER JUGS WORK REALLY WELL!

STEP 2

HAVE STUDENTS FROM EACH GRADE (FIRST GRADE TO FIFTH GRADE) DECORATE THEIR CHANGE CONTAINER.

GET CREATIVE!

STEP 3

Challenge each grade level to participate in the Heroes vs Villains Change War by dropping change into their change jar starting January 1 and going until March 1.

Each grade level is in charge of filling a container with enough money to fund one operation smile surgery. Coins are the heroes and will contribute toward the \$240 goal. However, villains are paper bills and will subtract from the total amount of coins. So, change/heroes move the total forward and bills/villains move the total backward.

Consider having your students participate in a fun fundraising day. Bring in a dollar and dress up like a superhero. Or have a “green out” day where everyone wears green to get in the shamrock spirit! Brainstorm other creative ideas with students to get the student body involved in a fun day of fundraising awareness!

STEP 4

TALLY UP YOUR CHANGE AND SEE WHICH GRADE IS THE WINNER!

- PLEASE HAVE YOUR SCHOOL MAKE A CHECK OUT TO OPERATION SMILE AND PUT “FINAL MILE” IN THE MEMO LINE.
- DROP OFF YOUR CHANGE AT THE OPERATION SMILE BOOTH IN THE SHAMROCK EXPO ON FRIDAY, MARCH 20 AT THE VIRGINIA BEACH CONVENTION CENTER.
- IF YOUR SCHOOL IS UNABLE TO COUNT YOUR CHANGE, THEN PLEASE LET US KNOW. WE WILL BE HAPPY TO COME PICK IT UP AND COUNT IT!

PRIZES

If your school hits the minimum of \$1200 (\$240 from each grade level) Operation Smile will sponsor a school-wide popsicle party!

EVEN BETTER

The top five fundraising schools will win a popsicle party with the Operation Smile Student Programs staff and... Batman and Deadpool or Ironman will come, too!

LET'S CELEBRATE THE HEROES IN YOUR SCHOOL

Operation Smile Student Programs would love to showcase the heroes in your elementary school at the Final Mile. If your school is committed to trying to raise a minimum of \$240 per grade level, we'll send you 25 Smile Hero capes to award to the students who are making an impact in your school. We will also supply you with a Smile Hero certificate to give to each student who receives a cape.

This recognition could go to students who performed a kind deed for others, did the right thing when no one was looking, or simply had a positive attitude.

Operation Smile would love for those students who have been recognized as Smile Heroes to wear their capes at the Final Mile and be celebrated as official Smile Heroes on race day. All students who have been awarded capes will also be invited to participate in the Shamrock Expo Capes for Kids Hero Experience at the Virginia Beach Convention Center on Friday, March 20th.

RESOURCES

- Please visit the Operation Smile Shamrock Final Mile webpage at: operationsmile.org/finalmile
 - There will be pictures and logos on the Operation Smile Shamrock Final Mile webpage that your school can use throughout the Smile Hero Campaign.
- Please also visit the Operation Smile Student Programs website at: studentprograms.operationsmile.org
- For more information about the Final Mile and how to register, visit: shamrockmarathon.com/finalmile

OPERATION SMILE IS EXCITED TO PARTNER WITH YOUR SCHOOL FOR THE SMILE HERO CAMPAIGN.

TOGETHER, WE CAN MAKE A BIG IMPACT IN THE LIVES OF THOUSANDS OF CHILDREN AROUND THE WORLD!

