

## **Meet Your Ambassadors!**

**Region They Cover: Idaho** 

Boise Fire Department

5 years climbing

Favorite Fundraising Tip: Let your friends and family know you are in the Stairclimb and why. Don't be afraid to tell them your goal, and ask if they will help you, help the LLS. If they do not know, they don't even have a chance to say yes or no. Put yourself out there, use social media and connections you have to let others know about the team you are on and their goal.

Bottom line, I climb to raise money for the LLS! I started climbing in honor of my father in law and one of my best friends, both were survivors. My father in law is still cancer free. During the preparation for the 2012 climb my friend began fighting his blood cancer for the third time. Horribly his fight ended when he passed November 6, 2011. This was very difficult for me to see his wife and him go through. It was also my catalyst to which I thought, I can do better, I can raise more money toward the hope others will not have to endure these bold cancers. In 2011 I was able to raise \$3599.11. Over the next three climbs, 2012-2014, I have raised \$49,480.85. My Boise Fire teammates have stepped up fundraising activities on personal and team levels, together we have raised \$173,725.38 from 2011-2014. Every team can be this successful, contact me we can chat!!!



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Regions They Cover: Western WA, AK & HI

South Bay Fire Dept.

7 years climbing

Favorite Fundraising Tip: Don't be shy about asking people to donate. Start easy and ask people you know first to donate to help get you started.

I think the Stairclimb is a great way to raise money to fight blood cancers and the ambassador program can help get you in contact with someone to point you in the right direction so you can maximize your efforts!



**Regions They Cover: Western WA** 

Graham Fire & Rescue

5 years climbing

Favorite Fundraising Tip: Ask for the right amount. Take a look at your potential donors and ask for the right amount. Don't ask for \$10 if you know someone can donate \$100, and don't ask for \$100 If you know all someone can give you is \$10.

After escaping a serious cancer scare, I haven't forgotten what that felt like. I use my own brush with cancer as motivation. I love to give the strength that I have and translate it into something positive that they, the honorees get to be a part of. Get out there and fundraise and remember.. Your STRENGTH is in your PASSION!



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**Region They Cover: Montana** 

Bozeman Fire Local 613

6 years climbing

Favorite Fundraising Tip: We all understand fundraising can be difficult or uncomfortable, but if you and your group are having fun, being enthusiastic about the cause and open to everyone its amazing what can, and will happen. Never be afraid to take time, to educate, and thank both those who donate and those who don't for their support. It pays off.

I started with the climb 5 years ago and just love the energy and excitement that surrounds it. Each year when the March date nears our team and community start to buzz with stairs and LLS on the brain. I wanted to share that excitement and our success in both our improved fundraising, climb times and love for the LLS with others in our area. I thought if our small department of 42 and team of once 4 and now as many as 10 can increase donations by more than 156% in the last 5 years anyone can. Its about the cause, the people, the honorees and their families who fight for everyday normalcy; the climb itself, the camaraderie, the incentive prizes those are just the icing on the cake. Nothing better than when a survivor, or a family member says "thanks for helping me fight Leukemia" CLIMB CONQUER CURE, see you at the top!



## Region They Cover: Canada & International

View Royal Fire Rescue (Victoria, BC)

7 years climbing

Favorite Fundraising Tip: Group fundraising is the best way for firefighters to reach the group minimum. Last year, my department did a MD boot-style fundraiser and raised \$2,400 in just two days.

2016 will the 8<sup>th</sup> year that I have participated in the stair climb and raised funds for LLS. Over the years, I have developed a real passion for stairclimbing and the good work that the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society does. I became involved in the Ambassador program to help support and encourage Canadian firefighters who want to participate in the Seattle firefighter stairclimb.



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## Region They Cover: Eastern and Central USA

Fredericktown Community Fire District – Fredericktown, Ohio

10 years climbing

Favorite Fundraising Tip: Don't be afraid to ask someone for a donation or sponsorship. Ask the question, show how personal the goals of our program are and be authentic. The only thing they can do is say no. If you don't ask, you're missing out. We're firefighters, yet for some reason we're afraid/nervous to ask for help. Get out there, in person, on the web, through email, social media and people will help do the work for you!

I got involved initially in 2007 as a climber to honor my mother Peggy (CML survivor), who received her unrelated bone marrow transplant in 1990 at The Ohio State University hospital in Columbus, Ohio. I was instantly hooked and kept training for more events to become more firefighter fit. I love what the organization is doing for the L&LS and want to champion for and help be a part of building this even bigger to pay forward for all that has been done for my family. This is my second year as an ambassador and I am excited to learn from others and share what I can to make our event even more successful.



**Region They Cover: Central WA** 

Pasco Fire Department Local 1433

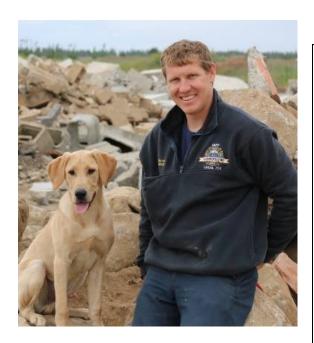
5 years climbing

Favorite Fundraising Tip: Fill the boot type fundraisers at local coffee shops and grocery stores (Dutch Bros. was our cash cow and the employees and the regional manager were very supportive and friendly.

Lyndsay Harhay, a family friend, has battled and overcame AML! She is the motivation in my training and fundraising efforts, as well as all those who have been stricken with blood cancers. I am proud to be an ambassador this year, as I believe strongly in the LLS mission as the world's largest non-profit organization in funding research to find a cure for blood cancers. My goal is to encourage fellow firefighter's to share the same dedication in fundraising!



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## Region They Cover: Northern Idaho and Eastern Washington

Coeur d'Alene Fire Department

6 years climbing

Favorite Fundraising Tip: When you ask people to support you in your fundraising efforts, be ready to help them donate right away. Have the link to your website saved on your phone so you can be ready to accept donations all the time.

I first started participating in the event because it sounded like a cool event. I didn't have a connection to the mission, I just wanted to try climbing. After my first year participating a family friend was diagnosed with blood cancer and the reason behind the event became much more important. The more I get involved, the more people I seem to know who have a connection to the mission, and the more I want to help raise funds to support LLS. I want to help as many people as I can raise as much money as they can to support cancer research.



**Region They Cover: Southwest** 

Lubbock Fire & Rescue (Lubbock, TX)

1 year climbing

Favorite Fundraising Tip: Go out and fun raising money for a great cause. Be creative!

I began my involvement to the LLSs in 2011 after I lost my best friend Brent to lymphoma and my sister-in-law was battling leukemia. That year at my wedding, we had donation boxes throughout the venue collecting money for LLS. I have attended many "Light the Night" Walks at Angel Stadium in California. The main reason I do the SFFSC is for people like Brent that spent their time and effort to become a firefighter and never had the chance to do so because of the cancer.



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**Region They Cover: Northern California** 

**Travis Fire Emergency Services** 

3 years climbing

Favorite Fundraising Tip: Public fundraising events with your department or teaming up with multiple departments in your area really makes a difference. Get your department's leadership on board with donating and supporting your teams fundraiser. Social media is your best source to get the word out on your fundraising activities.

This is my first year participating in the ambassador program and I am very excited to help spread the word about LLS and this great event to the Northern California area. Seeing the positive impact the Stairclimb had with fundraising for LLS during last year's climb has made me want to do as much as I can to contribute and get as many people involved in the climb and fundraising efforts as possible!