



Dup15q Alliance

Family Gathering Guide

What is a Dup15q Alliance State/Regional Gathering?

One or more Dup15q Alliance families organize and host and organize an event that any Dup15q family in the region can attend. There is no limit on activity or type of events, Some gatherings are just for adults, or just moms, or dads or family gatherings. It is a great way to welcome new families to the Dup15q family, and if a gathering happens every year it becomes a way to make and keep great friends.

Dup15q Alliance will provide grants to any gathering of four or more Dup15q Alliance families to support the cost of food associated with these gatherings. Grants usually start around \$250 and the level of financial support will vary based upon gathering type and anticipated attendee number.

How do I host a Family Gathering?

Decide on a date. Try to pick a time of year when travel won't be too difficult. If you want to host along with another family, decide on the date together. Don't worry too much about finding the "perfect" date. No matter what date you pick, some families won't be able to attend. Just resolve to have another gathering later that they can come to.

Note: Have a bad weather alternative date

Pick a location:

Some gatherings have been in people's homes or backyards, in local or state parks, at a hotel with a small water park, a local campground. You want a space that big enough so kids can run around, but not so big that they might wander off.

Location Ideas:

- Your home or backyard
- Local playground/park
- State Park
- Zoo
- Amusement Park
- Hotel
- Local Sports Games
- Restaurant
- Pool/ water park/ beach

To Do:

- Make necessary reservations if it's in a park or a campground, you may be able to reserve a shelter with picnic tables and bathrooms.
- Request Nonprofit Discount or Group Rates for locations that have a rental or admission price. The Dup15q Alliance will provide a letter for a written requests and proof of 501 (c) (3) status.
- If there is a rental cost.
- Figure out the final costs so you can let everyone know up front. There may not be any big costs besides gas to drive to your location. If people are going to stay overnight, you'll need to include hotel rates. And any extra costs associated with going to an amusement park or water park.



Plan for Food/Drinks

You can make it a sort of pot luck and ask people to bring certain things for a picnic lunch (bread, chips, lunch meat, cheese condiments, fruit, cookies) and everyone can make their own sandwiches. You can all go in on an order of pizzas (let people know ahead of time what they might need to contribute). If people have kids with food allergies, just encourage them to bring their own food. And confirm with them if there are types of food (example: peanut butter)

- You can check with local businesses and see if they would donate a case of water or chips in return for an announcement about them at the event and a thank you on the website. The Dup15q Alliance will provide a letter for written requests and proof of 501 (c) (3) status.
- Note: Dup15q Alliance supports gatherings with a Regional Gathering Grants that usually start around \$250 and the level of financial support will vary based upon gathering type and anticipated attendee number.

Activities

Plan some low key activities to take place before or after your shared meal: swimming at a local lake or hotel water park. Walk through a local (free) zoo or historic village. Play at a playground. Have a bad weather alternative.

Invitations

When you have everything planned out, ask the Alliance to send out an e-mail invitation and request for RSVPs. Because of privacy concerns, the Alliance can't just give you the names and e-mails of everyone in your region or state, but you can ask in your e-mail if people will let you contact them directly, and if they say yes, then you can build a list of folks in your region.

Dup15q Alliance Support

Dup15q Alliance will support State Representatives by:

- Sending a representative from the Dup15q Alliance to attend, whenever possible.
- Providing food/support grants to any gathering of four or more Dup15q Alliance families to support the cost of food associated with these gatherings. Grants usually start around \$250 and the level of financial support will vary based upon gathering type and anticipated attendee number.
- Providing admin support throughout the planning of the gatherings, to assist in any planning and answer and questions.
- Sending official emails and gathering announcements to the state families. Some states may only have a few families across the state. These families may be invited to a neighboring state gathering. If the gathering is held close to state lines, neighboring states may be invited.