

**For folks attending Leadership Summit & Lobby Day:  
Where should you display your Lights of Hope in 2025?**



Lights of Hope is our signature fundraising event, dedicated to honoring those touched by cancer and remembering those we have lost. Donors to Lights of Hope can honor and remember their loved ones by dedicating a Lights of Hope bag to display during Lights of Hope Across America in the fall of 2025.

Lights of Hope Across America event includes a display in Washington, DC that hosted in conjunction with the 2025 Leadership Summit and Lobby Day (LS&LD). This display, called the Hope Walk, is one of hundreds taking place across the country. As a fundraiser for Lights of Hope who is ALSO invited to LS&LD, this year you will have the opportunity to choose where your Lights of Hope are displayed

- If you, your donors, and your sponsors have come to love the local display, we encourage you to continue that tradition. Please host your event before DonorDrive closes on October 17, 2025. If you would like pictures of your display included in the nationwide video we are creating for this year's event, high resolution photos are due to us by September 2, 2025.
- Alternatively, you can bring up to 20 of your Lights of Hope to Washington, DC with you and display them on September 16, 2025, as part of the Hope Walk. The Hope Walk will take place at the Constitution Gardens, a beautiful location on The Mall. Lights of Hope will again be sorted by state. Each participant will work with their State Staff Partner on how many bags you plan to bring to Washington DC.

Please do not plan on displaying your Lights of Hope bags at two separate events. Lights of Hope is a fundraiser, and we are not able to cover the costs associated with multiple events per \$10 donation. That said, if you are planning to display your bags as part of the Hope Walk, you are welcome to also set up bags at home for the purpose of taking pictures. Just be sure to do so at a time when they will not be exposed to the elements. We are not able to replace bags impacted by rain or high winds.

Please remember to work with your state staff partner to ensure all bags coming to DC are accounted for in advance. It is important we keep our anticipated bag numbers in line with our goal to have more lights displayed at home, across America and in your lawmaker's home district.

# FAQ's



- 1. If I am invited to and plan on attending the 2025 LS&LD, do I have to bring my Lights of Hope bags?** Absolutely not! You are welcome to host a local display instead of bringing your Lights of Hope to Washington, DC. Many will choose this option because of how much our donors and sponsors have loved seeing this event in their own community.
- 2. If I am hosting an at home or community display, when should I host it?** You can host your display anytime while most happen in August or September. If you want your local display included in the nationwide video compilation, photos are due September 2, 2025.
- 3. Where should I recognize my sponsors?** When and where you recognize your sponsors is a conversation you should have with your sponsors. Some sponsors want to display their sign and recognition items at their place of business. Some love to see the pictures you share displaying them at your local display. Your sponsor recognition and signs will not be displayed at the Hope Walk in Washington, DC. There will be special recognition for any \$10,000 sponsor and above at the Hope Walk.
- 4. Where do I get the supplies for my local display?** Many have had great luck getting donated items for bag weights and lights. You can no longer order lights from your staff person as well as stickers to help decorate your bags.
- 5. What if my community-based location requires insurance?** Your staff person can help you secure insurance for the day of your event.
- 6. What if I set up my bags at home and the wind or rain ruins my Lights of Hope that I planned to also bring to Washington?** We are not able to replace damaged bags for display at the Hope Walk.
- 7. If I choose to bring my bags to LS&LD, how will they get there?** You will travel with them in your checked or carry-on luggage. Just like in past years you will not be able to ship your bags to Washington, DC.
- 8. Some of our team is not invited to or is choosing not to attend LS&LD. Who will bring their Lights of Hope to Washington, DC?** The Hope Walk in Washington, DC display is only for people attending LS&LD. Those not attending should set up their bags at an at-home or community display.
- 9. Where do I get Lights of Hope bags?** You can use Lights of Hope bags you have left over from previous years. If you need a refreshed supply, please work with your staff partner. Reminder: per legal, we cannot use Relay For Life bags for Lights of Hope purposes.
- 10. Who decorates my Lights of Hope bags?** You will decorate all your Lights of Hope, whether displaying locally or at the Hope Walk.

# How many bags can come to DC?



To be the best stewards of our donor dollars AND be more environmentally conscious, we will be limiting the number of Lights of Hope set up at the Hope Walk.

**The short answer:** Those invited and planning to attend the 2025 Leadership Summit & Lobby Day (LS&LD) can display up to 20 of their Lights of Hope at the Hope Walk in Washington, DC.

**More details:** At a minimum, each state gets to send one person per Congressional District, plus their SLA & VSLA, plus a state staff partner to LS&LD. We used these numbers, multiplied by 20 bags per person to get the MAXIMUM number of bags that will come to DC from each state. We know not everyone will want to bring their maximum Lights of Hope bags to DC, so it's up to the state staff and volunteers to determine which bags are being displayed at the Hope Walk.

**Important:** These numbers do NOT include National or Regional staff members or Leadership volunteers (NAT, Board Members) we will work with those individuals separately.

State	Congressional districts- 2023	CDs + SLA + VSLA+ GRM(s)		STATE BAG TOTAL
AK	1	4		80
AL	7	10		200
AR	4	7		140
AZ	9	12		240
CA	52	57	*3 GRMs	1140
CO	8	11		220
CT	5	8		160
DC	1	4		80
DE	1	4		80
FL	28	33	*3 GRMs	660
GA	14	17		340
GU	0	3		60
HI	2	5		100
IA	4	7		140
ID	2	5		100
IL	17	20		400
IN	9	12		240
KS	4	7		140
KY	6	9		180
LA	6	9		180
MA	9	12		240
MD	8	11		220
ME	2	5		100

MI	13	16		320
MN	8	11		220
MO	8	11		220
MS	4	7		140
MT	2	5		100
NC	14	17		340
ND	1	4		80
NE	3	6		120
NH	2	5		100
NJ	12	15		300
NM	3	6		120
NV	4	7		140
NY	26	30	*2 GRMs	600
OH	15	18		360
OK	5	8		160
OR	6	9		180
PA	17	20		400
PR	1	4		80
RI	2	5		100
SC	7	10		200
SD	1	4		80
TN	9	12		240
TX	38	43	*3 GRMs	860
UT	4	7		140
VA	11	14		280
VT	1	4		80
WA	10	13		260
WI	8	11		220
WV	2	5		100
WY	1	4		80
	437	603		12,060
<b>State</b>	<b>Congressional districts- 2023</b>	<b>CDs + SLA + VSLA+ GRM(s)</b>		<b>STATE BAG TOTAL</b>

Do you have additional questions? Please contact Rachael Eerdmans at [Rachael.Eerdmans@cancer.org](mailto:Rachael.Eerdmans@cancer.org)