



Knights of Columbus Connecticut State Council

April 30, 2022

Worthy State Deputy, State Officers, Brother Knights;

As your Director for the Fund Drive for Helping People with Intellectual Disabilities (Tootsie Roll program). I would like to report to you on the 2020-2021 Tootsie Roll Program Year and for the 2021-2022 Tootsie Roll Program Year.

The 2021 - 2022 Tootsie Roll programs like everything has been affected by Covid -19 pandemic. Councils had to either cancel their drives or come-up with a way that they can safely do a drive. Councils at the beginning of the pandemic were planning on doing a drive but due to all the restrictions and implementations, drives had to be canceled. When restrictions were eased some Councils decided to do the drive under safe social distancing. Other Councils decided that they will wait a year and see where things stand. Now that we have a vaccine, and that people are getting fully vaccinated, the hope is that our lives are somewhat get back to normal.

With that being said, the total amount that was collected for the 2020-21 Tootsie Roll Program year was \$40,192.11 with 30 Council participating Compared to what was collected in the 2019-2020 was \$110,169.22 with 47 Council participating. Which shows that we had a decrease of \$69,977.11. and 17 less Councils. So far, for the 2021-2022 Tootsie Roll program year (as of March 31, 2022) a total amount of \$53,466.76 has been collected from 31 Councils. We are showing a increase of \$13,269.66 from the 2020-2021 program year. The CT State Council thanks those Councils and Brother Knights for their participation especially during this pandemic. There is still time for councils that would like to be part of this year's drive, A safe drive can be done, The 2021-2022 Program year ends on June 30, 2022.

The 2022-2023 Tootsie Roll Program will start on July1, 2022 and run thru June 30, 2023. Councils should start thinking and searching for places that they can do a safe drive,

If your Council has done a Tootsie Roll Drive in the past, and suspended the Drive due to Covid, or any other reason I would ask you to please reconsider maybe have Co-Chairman, pair up the last Tootsie Roll Chairman with a newer Brother Knight that is interested and have that newer Brother shadow the older Chairman to learn the ropes. Get Brother Knight's interested again. Have shorter time slots for collections. Get family members involved. A husband-and-wife team, father daughter, or father and son team. Speaking of children, it has been proven that when you have a child with you while doing a collection, people are more generous when a child is involved. Think outside the box. Consider doing a drive at the local Farmer's Market, in front of a local pizza shop, Bagel shop, a diner or a place where you can safely do it.

If a Council is considering doing a drive for the 2022-2023 Program year, and you would like to order Tootsie Rolls, please contact the CT State Council Tootsie Roll Chairman, please see order form which is included in your packet. Again, think outside the box. People with Intellectual Disabilities are counting on us.

On behalf of all the Charities of Connecticut. for the worthy People with Intellectual Disabilities who greatly benefits from the Tootsie Roll funds, I would like to thank all of the participating Councils and the many Brother Knights and their families who worked so hard for so many hours in all types of weather to make this drive possible. I hope that every active Council in the state will take part in the 2022-2023 Tootsie Roll Drive starting this fraternal year.

I would like to Thank, our Worthy State Deputy matthew McGrath and the State Council Officers for having the faith and trust that they have in me for moving the State Council forward to continue on with the Tootsie Roll Drive and helping People with Intellectual Disabilities. And a special Thank You to my wife Wendy, for all of her support.

Fraternally yours,

Thomas P Sullivan DD

Director Fund Drive for Helping People with Intellectual Disabilities

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