Frequently Asked Questions

What is Do it in the Dark?

Do it in the Dark (DITD) is a fundraising event which aims to create awareness about inherited retinal diseases and raise funds to support research projects, which aim to treat and cure them. Registrants can host an event at home, the workplace or virtually – and together with their supporters will do an everyday activity while wearing custom made glasses, which simulate tunnel vision, a common symptom of inherited retina disease.

Who is running this event?

DITD is run by Retina Australia. Retina Australia is a national not-for-profit organisation dedicated to raising funds for life-changing medical research programs, which will ultimately lead to the treatment and cures of inherited retinal diseases (IRD). IRDs affect over 15,000 Australians. Retina Australia has contributed over $5.5 million to research programs over the last 35 years.

When does Do it in the Dark take place?

DITD takes place during March & April 2021. You can host an event at home, virtually or at the workplace, at any time which is convenient to you. If you are organising an event with family or friends, we recommend hosting an event on the weekend to maximise your attendance. If you cannot host your event during this time, you also have the option of organising an event in May.

How can I participate?

To get involved in this event, go to our website, and fill in the registrant form. Once you have submitted your form, a fundraising kit will be mailed out to your nominated address within 3 – 5 business days. You can then plan your event and begin collecting donations – it is that simple.

Select a time which is convenient to you during March or April, spread the word to your family and friends and get excited for a fun and meaningful experience. You can also create a free fundraising page *via Just Giving*, which allows your supporters to see

your fundraising goals, leave messages and donate directly via the platform. Learn more here: https://www.justgiving.com/retinaaustralia

Who will this event support?

This fundraising event will support people currently living with inherited retinal diseases and help advance research in treatments, and ultimately finding a cure. You can view a list of the projects we are currently funding here: https://bit.ly/3kJU6Au

How much should I aim to raise?

Fundraising goals will be different for each person, but it is important to set yourself a goal and make your supporters aware of how much you intend to raise. If you aim to have ten people attending your event and each person donates $20, you will have already raised $200. If you were to hold a larger event with fifty people and each person gave just $10, you will have raised $500. Encourage donations once the event is completed by either collecting cash on the day or directing your supporters to the Retina Australia website.

Remember, set a goal that you feel comfortable with and one that you believe your supporters will back.

How do I transfer my donations to Retina Australia?

Paying in your money is simple and secure. A document outlining the various ways in which you can transfer your money is attached in your fundraising kit.

Is this event safe?

Whether you are hosting an event at home or the office, it is important to take precautionary measures to ensure a safe event. The glasses provided simulate tunnel vision, usually giving someone 5 to 10% of their normal vision. Therefore, it is imperative that when hosting an event, you only choose safe, low risk activities such as hosting a movie night, having a meal together, hosting a morning tea, playing some video games, or going on a familiar walk with a sighted guide.

Do not attempt to operate machinery or power tools, handle hazardous materials, or move about in unfamiliar areas.

If you have any other questions about Do it in the Dark, you can email info@retinaaustralia.com.au or phone 1800 899 870.