



Joint Council's
Change
for
Children

Change for Children

2014

Halloween Party Kit

Joint Council's Make Change for Children

Welcome from Tom

On behalf of Joint Council and the children we serve, I want to thank you for being such an important part of this year's Change for Children campaign. Our goal of raising \$160,000 this fall for children without families would simply not be attainable without your help. You can rest assured that your work will make an immediate difference in the lives of children and families.

Make Change for Children is an initiative of the Joint Council on International Children's Services. We serve the 8 million children who live outside of family care. We work to end their suffering.

We've created this Party Kit to make planning and hosting your *Make Change for Children* party as easy as possible. Inside, you'll find a planning calendar, decorating ideas, recipes, talking points, and plenty of downloadable materials. Please don't hesitate to call us if we can be of any assistance. Our Program Assistant, Maggie Steiner, is ready to help! She can be reached at (703) 535-8045, or email: jinfo@jointcouncil.org

Again, thank you so much for your support of *Make Change for Children*!

Sincerely,

Tom DiFilipo
President & CEO
Joint Council on International Children's Services



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Planning Your Party

6-8 Weeks Before the Event

Pick a date for your party.

The fall is a busy time for most people, so you'll want to give your guests plenty of time to mark their calendars. Try to coordinate your party with other Halloween celebrations and check local calendars to make sure your date won't conflict with back-to-school nights, local football games, etc.

Choose a location.

Try to estimate the number of guests you'll have as you consider where to host your party. Too many for your house? Check your local rec center or your children's school for inexpensive party room options. Consider private venues as well as public places. Wherever you choose, make sure it's convenient for your guests!

Start a guest list.

The type of party you want to host will largely determine your guest list. You might choose to focus the party around a birthday celebration, a meeting of a Girl Scout or Cub Scout troop, or another club gathering. Perhaps you want to host an all-adult Parents' Night Out. Check out our Party Ideas section for lots of fun party activities, snacks, and more.

4-5 Weeks Before the Event

Create your Personal Fundraising Page.

If you haven't already done so, visit www.crowdrise.com/makechangeformchildren to create your Personal Fundraising Page. Friends and supporters who can't attend the party can use the page to support your efforts, and you can use it after the party to enter the donations you collect.

The pre-set goal for a *Make Change for Children* Team is \$500. You may decide to raise or lower this depending on the size of your event, your plans for spreading the word about *Make Change for Children* outside of the party, etc. Setting a goal helps you, your guests, and friends who can't attend focus on the task at hand - to raise money to support children without loving families.



Planning Your Party

Send invitations.

If you'd like to send your invitations online, visit the Resources section below for directions on how to use Evite for your invitations. For those who prefer printed and mailed invitations, we've included a printable invitation as well.

Include a link to your *Make Change the Children* fundraising page on your invitation so guests can learn more about the campaign, or make a donation if they can't attend. Encourage guests to collect and bring loose change with them to the party. No counting required!

The earlier you send out your invitations, the more likely it is that guests will be able to attend, and the more time you'll have to plan food and games around the number of people you expect.

Create a party agenda.

The details of your Party Agenda will depend on the kind of party you decide to host (adults only vs. children included; day time vs. night time; etc.). We've provided a sample Agenda below to get you started:

- Guests arrive/sign in
- As they arrive, collect change guests may have brought with them
- Refreshments served
- If children are attending, have some easy activities for them to do while they're waiting for everyone to arrive, such as coloring pages, word searches, and crossword puzzles. Visit our Resources section for links to lots of printable party activities.
- Once most guests have arrived, pause to thank everyone for attending. Use the talking points provided in this document, or your own comments, to introduce them to Change for Children and Joint Council. Be sure to include why you are personally interested in helping children without families
- If a Joint Council staff member or Board member is able to attend, introduce them and provide them time to speak
- Finish your presentation by letting your guests know how they can support *Make Change for Children*
 - Hand out *Make Change for Children* collection bags, stickers, and leave-behind cards for them to give to donors. Be sure to give your guests directions on how and when to return their filled collection bags to you



Planning Your Party

- Have a computer set up with the *Make Change for Children* fundraising page live. Invite guests to join your Team and give them a leave-behind card so they know how to return to the site
- Give guests the opportunity to make a donation via check, cash, or change. Donations in the form of a check should be made out to Joint Council on International Children's Services
- Conclude the "formal" portion of the party by thanking everyone for attending. If you've got games and activities planned, invite everyone to participate. We've got lots of ideas for party games in our Resources section!

2-3 Weeks Before the Event

Send out a reminder email.

Remind guests who are attending about the event, and make sure they know they can support your efforts before the event by joining your Team, making a donation, or sharing your fundraising page with friends. Encourage those who haven't responded to come join the fun, or support your efforts online.

Brush up on your facts.

Our Resources section provides talking points and additional links so that you can learn everything you can about the needs of millions of children living without families, and how Joint Council and its partners help them.

Plan your decorations, activities, and refreshments.

The Party Ideas section of this Kit provides lots of fun ideas for decorations, games, and refreshments to make your party a truly memorable experience. You can even download and print Certificates of Appreciation for each of your young guests!



Joint Council's Change for Children

After the Party

Send thank you notes.

We encourage you to send personal thank you notes to your guests, with your goal and how much you raised. Download a printable thank you note template in our Resources section.

Enter your donations online and submit your donations.

To record and submit your donations, first log in to your online fundraising page at www.makechangeforchildren.org.

Use the Pledge Entry tool to enter any checks, change, or cash you received as donations. Please write a check for the cash you've received, and send that along with any other checks to Joint Council at:

Joint Council on International Children's Services

117 S. St. Asaph St.

Alexandria, VA 22314

Please Note: if you prefer, you may use a credit card to make a donation on your personal fundraising page for any cash received. This eliminates the need for you to record a Pledge for cash received. All checks must be submitted to Joint Council at the address provided.

Tell us how it went!

Please tell us about your experience hosting a Change for Children party! Send your stories and photos to us via email at info@jointcouncil.org

Thank you!

We at Joint Council are so grateful for your contribution to the Change for Children campaign. Whether large or small, the event you hosted will have a huge impact on the lives of vulnerable children around the world.



Party Helpers

In order to make your party as easy and as much fun as it can be, we've collected some of our favorite party ideas here. You'll find haunted house decoration ideas, great games and activities for your younger guests, and delicious, Halloween-themed recipes!

Looking for festive music? Check out the Change for Children Radio station on Pandora! Follow us and like the station, and enjoy our favorite creepy tunes!



Decoration Ideas

Hoping to make your party space extra creepy? These DIY decorations are fun and easy to make for kids and parents, and your guests will love them!

Apple Candle Holder. Find apples with a somewhat flat bottom so that they can stand up on their own. Cut off the stems and make a small indent in the top of each apple that's just wide and deep enough to hold a candle.

Spider Web Threads. Cut long black threads, long enough to dangle from the ceiling just a few feet above the floor. Use clear tape to hang them from the ceiling in places where guests will brush them as they walk by.

Ghostly Chair Covers. Hang white pillowcases on the backs of each of your dining chairs. Use black felt to cut out eyes and a mouth, and attach to the pillowcase with glue.

Jack-o-Lantern Windows. Cover windows in your party space with sheets of construction paper, and cut out eyes, nose and mouth so that light can shine out. It'll look great from the street, and give the inside an eerie feel.

Milk Jug Ghosts. Wash out and save plastic gallon milk jugs, and decorate with ghost eyes and mouths with a black permanent marker. Then cut out a half-dollar sized hole in the back of each and string low-wattage lights around and inside the jugs.

Salt Dough Ghosts. Combine 1 cup of flour, 1 cup of salt and 1/2 cup of water and stir with a wooden spoon until smooth. Then divide the dough (you should get about 6, depending on how big you want your ghosts to be) and mold with your fingers into ghostly shapes. Microwave the ghosts two at a time for 20- to 30- second intervals until they are firm. Draw on eyes and mouth with a black permanent marker.

Vampire Bat Balloons. Inflate two black balloons so that one is smaller than the other. Attach them at the knots with black duct tape. Cut ear, eye, wing, and fang shapes out of black and white construction paper, and attach with duct tape. Use black ribbon to hang bats from the ceiling.



Party Games

Inviting kids to your party? We've got some awesome ideas for games to try out! They'll have a great time, and you can relax while they play!

Pumpkin Toss. Place a small pumpkin pail on the floor and have players line up behind it. One by one, each player tries to toss a small piece of candy into the pail. Whoever makes the most shots wins all the candy in the pail!

Monster Tag. This is a good game if your party is outside, or if you have a large, empty space in your house. Use tape or rope to section off a large circle where the game will be played. Give one child a monster mask and blindfold him/her. All players must stay inside the circle. When the monster roars or moans, the other player roar or moan back. The monster tries to tag the other players, and once a player is tagged, he/she becomes the new monster!

Make-a-Mummy. Divide players into groups of three or four, and give each group about three rolls of toilet paper. One child will be the mummy, and other players must wrap of their mummy completely (except mouth, nose, and eyes, of course!). The first group finished (or the best mummy!) wins.



Recipes

Can't decide what to serve at your Change for Children party? Looking for ghoulish and terrifying recipes, or just can't get enough pumpkin? Here you'll find recipes for drinks, snacks, and main courses that kids and adults will love!



Rotten Apple Punch

Ingredients:

At least 1 gallon apple cider
5– 1/2 cup containers
Red and green food coloring
10-15 gummy worms

Directions:

Pour some of the apple cider into the five dishes, filled to about 1/2 inch from the top. Add 2 drops red and 1 drop green food coloring to each and stir until colors have blended.

Hang 2 or 3 gummy worms around the edge of each dish and place dishes in the freezer until the “rotten apples” are solid.

When ready to serve, slip “rotten apples” from the dishes. Pour the remaining cider into a punch bowl and float the “rotten apples” in it.



Pumpkin Smoothie

Makes 2-3 servings

Ingredients:

1/2 cup canned pumpkin
3/4 cup milk or vanilla yogurt
1/4 tsp. cinnamon
1/8 tsp. nutmeg
2 tsp. brown sugar
4 ice cubes
Whipped cream, to top

Directions:

Combine all ingredients except whipped cream in blender and puree until completely smooth. Pour into glasses and garnish with a dollop of whipped cream to serve.



Roasted Pumpkin Seeds

Makes 6 servings

Ingredients:

1 1/2 cups pumpkin seeds
2 tsp. butter, melted
Pinch salt

Directions:

Preheat oven to 300 degrees F.

Toss seeds in bowl with butter and salt. Spread seeds in one layer on a baking sheet. Bake about 45 minutes until golden brown and crispy, stirring occasionally.



Pumpkin Muffins

Makes 36 muffins

Ingredients:

1 1/2 cups raisins
4 3/4 cups flour
4 cups sugar
1 1/2 tsp. baking powder
1 1/2 tsp. baking soda
1 1/2 tsp. salt
1 1/2 tsp. nutmeg
1 1/2 tsp. cinnamon
1 1/2 tsp. ground cloves
6 eggs
29 oz. canned pumpkin
1 cup unsweetened applesauce
1 cup chopped walnuts

Directions:

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Line three muffin pans with muffin liners. Soak raisins in hot water for ten minutes until plump, then drain.

Combine flour, sugar, baking powder, baking soda, salt, nutmeg, cinnamon, cloves. In a separate bowl, mix eggs, pumpkin and applesauce until smooth. Add to dry ingredients and stir thoroughly. Stir in raisins and walnuts and spoon into muffin cups.

Bake 30-35 minutes and let cool.



Goblin Teeth

Recipe is for each "mouth"

Ingredients:

- 1 pea pod
- 1 piece red bell pepper
- Few slivered almonds

Directions:

Use a paring knife to cut a slit in the center of one side of the pea pod.

Insert piece red pepper into the slit to make a tongue.

Insert almonds around pepper for teeth.



Pumpkin Cheese Balls

Makes 3 cups

Ingredients:

8 oz. cream cheese, softened
1/2 cup pumpkin, canned or cooked
8 oz. crushed pineapple, drained
2 cups shredded sharp cheddar cheese
2 1/2 oz. dried beef, finely chopped
1 tbsp. onion, finely chopped
Celery leaves
Crackers and/or raw vegetables

Directions:

Beat cream cheese, pumpkin, and pineapple in a mixing bowl. Stir in cheddar cheese, beef, and onion.

Shape into a ball and place on serving platter. Score sides with a knife to resemble a pumpkin and add celery leaves for stems.

Serve with crackers and/or vegetables



Pumpkin Risotto

Makes 6 servings

Ingredients:

3 cups pumpkin flesh, peeled and cubed
1/2 cup olive oil
1 cup finely chopped onion
1 tbsp. chopped garlic
2 cups Arborio rice
1 cup dry white wine
5 cups chicken or vegetable stock
1/2 cup grated parmesan
4 tbsp. unsalted butter, cut into pieces
1 tbsp. fresh sage
Salt and pepper to taste

Directions:

Wrap cubed pumpkin in foil and bake and 350 degrees F for 30 minutes.

Heat olive oil over medium-high heat in medium-sized saucepan. Sautee onions and garlic 3 to 4 minutes

Add rice and continue to stir, coating rice with oil. Add white wine and continue cooking until it has been absorbed by rice. Pour in enough stock to cover completely (about 3 cups) until liquid has been absorbed. Add 1 cup of remaining stock and cook until it has been absorbed. Add remaining stock and cook until rice is al dente, tender, but still chewy, and most of the liquid has been absorbed.

Add pumpkin and reduce heat to very low so that the risotto is no longer simmering. Stir in parmesan and butter, add sage, and salt an pepper to taste.

Serve immediately.



Pumpkin Burgers

Makes 3 burgers

Ingredients:

- 1 1/2 lb. ground beef
- 1/2 mashed cooked pumpkin
- 1 onion, chopped
- 12 oz. chili sauce
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1 tsp. pepper
- 1 tsp. pumpkin pie spice
- 1 can condensed tomato soup

Directions:

Combine ground beef and onion and brown lightly, breaking up meat with a fork. Add remaining ingredients.

Cover and let simmer about 20 minutes. Uncover and simmer 15 minutes longer until mixture is thick. Serve on buns.



Acorn Candy Cookies

Makes 24 cookies

Ingredients:

- 1 tbsp. prepared chocolate frosting
- 24 milk chocolate kisses
- 24 mini vanilla wafer cookies
- 24 butterscotch chips

Directions:

Smear some frosting onto the bottom of each kiss, and press onto the flat side of each wafer.

Smear more frosting onto bottom of each butterscotch chip, and press onto rounded top of cookie.

Let dry about 30 minutes.



Candy Apples

Makes 15 apples

Ingredients:

15 apples
2 cups white sugar
1 cup light corn syrup
1 1/2 cups water
Red food coloring

Directions:

Lightly grease cookie sheets and insert craft sticks into whole, stemmed apples.

In a medium saucepan over medium-high heat, combine sugar, corn syrup and water. Heat to 300 degrees F. Remove from heat and add food coloring to desired shade.

Hold each apple by the stick and dip in syrup. Remove and turn to coat evenly, and place on cookie sheets to harden.



Candy Corn Cupcakes

Makes 24 cupcakes

Ingredients:

White cake mix
Buttercream icing
Yellow and orange food dye
Candy corn (to decorate)

Directions:

Preheat oven, following cake mix directions. Line two cupcake pans with cupcake liners.

Prepare white cake batter and separate into two equal parts. Dye one portion yellow and the other orange.

Use a tablespoon to spoon yellow batter into the bottom of each cupcake cup, about 1/3 of the way full. Spoon orange cake batter on top of this to about 2/3 of the way to the top.

Bake cupcakes and allow to cool completely.

Frost and decorate with candy corn.



Pumpkin Fudge

Ingredients:

3 cups granulated sugar
3/4 cups butter
5 1/3 oz. evaporated milk
1/2 cup solid pack pumpkin
1 tsp. pumpkin pie spice
12 oz. butterscotch morsels
7 oz. marshmallow crème
1 cup chopped toasted pecans
1 tsp vanilla extract

Directions:

Grease a 13 X 9 inch pan.

In a saucepan, combine sugar, butter, milk, pumpkin and spice. Cook over medium-high heat.

Bring to a boil, stirring constantly, until it reaches 234 degrees F, about 15-20 minutes.

Remove from heat and quickly stir in butterscotch morsels, marshmallow crème, nuts, and vanilla.

Pour into pan and spread evenly. Let cool and cut into squares.



Resources

We invite you to make use of these resources: links to kids' activities you can download and print, invitations for you to fill out and send, a Certificate of Appreciation you can print and hand out to your younger guests, to let them know how much they have helped children around the world, and thank you notes to send out after your party.

We've also compiled some Talking Points you can use to help guests understand who and what they are supporting, and how their donations will help millions of children without families and a sign-in sheet you can print and have your guests sign.



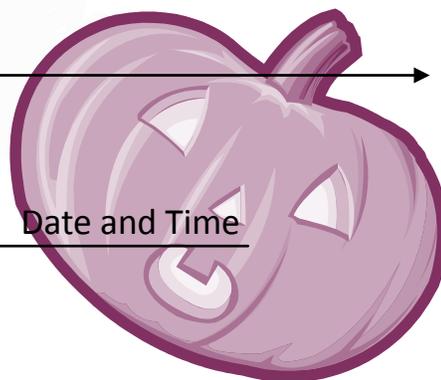
Joint Council's Make Change for Children

You're Invited...

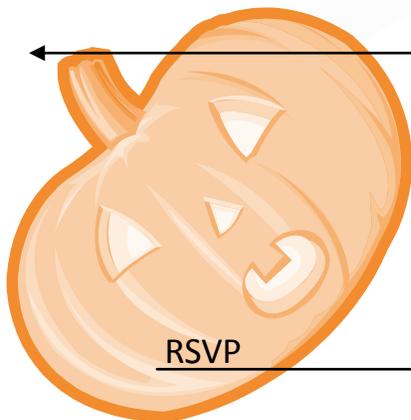
to celebrate Halloween, and help children around the world!

Come for a *spooooooooky* night of fun and giving! We're throwing a *Make Change for Children* bash, to raise money to help children without families. Donations will be made to Joint Council on International Children's Services.

Place



Date and Time



RSVP



Joint Council's Make Change for Children

Thank You!

Dear _____,

We hope you had a *terrorific* time! Celebrating with us has made you a part of the movement to protect every child's most basic right: the right to a loving, safe, and permanent family. Every cent raised will help Joint Council work on behalf of parentless children around the world. Thanks for helping us *Make Change for Children!*

Have a Happy Halloween!

Sincerely,

Our Fundraising Goal:

Our Actual Funds
Raised:



Talking Points

As the host of a *Make Change for Children* Halloween party you'll want to help your guests understand exactly what it is you are supporting. Here's some information that we hope will help you:

Q. How many children are there in need of families? No one knows how many children in the world are without families, because they have never been counted. The estimate of 153 million orphans does not include children living in baby houses, orphanages, group homes, or on the streets. This number is believed to be 8 million. In the United States alone, 111,000 children are waiting for permanent, loving families.

Q. What are the consequences of growing up without a family? Children living without families will not develop cognitively as well as they might with a loving parent at home. They are more susceptible to sex trafficking, child labor, and malnutrition, and they are far less likely to finish school, succeed at work, and become good parents themselves.

Q. What are the issues related to intercountry adoption? Intercountry adoption is one of very few services that reach out to children living without parental care. However, since 2004, a series of restrictions have greatly diminished the number of children being adopted across international borders. Those intercountry adoption agencies that have not closed altogether have greatly cut back on the number of adoptions they oversee, so that by 2014, a projected 342,876 children who might have found permanent, loving families instead remain orphans.

Q. What is Joint Council? Joint Council on International Children's Services began as a collaboration of organizations serving children in the United States and abroad. In 1975, Joint Council became an international non-profit organization dedicated to protecting every child's right to a permanent, safe, and loving family, and has since grown in size and ability to reach out to more and more children through research and education, as well as advocacy initiatives. Today, Joint Council is partnered with 140 child welfare organizations worldwide.



More Talking Points

Q. What has Joint Council done on behalf of children without families? Joint Council works to end the suffering of the 8 million orphans living outside of family care. Our services include adoption medicine, foster care and adoption, orphan and adoption nutrition, domestic and intercountry adoption, orphan care and women's empowerment. Joint Council also engages in advocacy programs, calling for worldwide change to create laws, policies, and programs to make family life possible for every child. Joint Council sponsors education and research and creates a forum for the sharing of information. More information on specific campaigns is available at www.jointcouncil.org.

Q. What is the *Make Change for Children* Campaign? The *Make Change for Children* campaign is an advocacy and fundraising campaign created by Joint Council in 2011 for the vulnerable children Joint Council works to protect and serve. *Make Change for Children* will bring the world's attention to the plight of these children, and generate funding for the programs led by Joint Council and its partners.

Q. What will Joint Council do with my money? Any money donated to Joint Council through this year's *Make Change for Children* campaign will be used to support Joint Council's programs, which strive to serve children without families. These include not only advocacy and education initiatives, but also on-the-ground projects in areas such as nutrition, foster care and adoption, orphan care, and women's empowerment.

Q. How many people are involved in *Change for Children*? Last year's campaign involved 5,507 individuals. This year, we expect to engage 6,900 participants. This number will include fundraisers, hosts of *Change for Children* events, guests at these events, and others with some involvement with the campaign.

Q. I want to help! How can I get involved? Everyone can be a part of the campaign. Parties like yours help raise funds and awareness. Participants can create personal fundraising pages. If your guests are children—or parents—suggest that they trick-or-treat *for change* this year!



