



Support Victories: Host a Social Gathering



Fostering Community
Building Friendships
Expanding Connections





Victories Social Gatherings

The purpose of Victories Social Gatherings is to encourage and promote community amongst Victories alumni and supporters and to raise money for Victories.

Why Social Gatherings?

- The Victories community is rich in talent, passions, and experiences, and there are never enough opportunities to share them with each other.
- We want to foster meaningful experiences within the community, helping people spend time with each other and meet new friends.
- We want a fun and creative way to raise funds for Victories.

What is a Social Gathering? (More Examples on the next page)

- You are an Illinois Master Gardener and have a garden to make anyone drool. You host a gardening tour and talk about how to make the most of your space, light, and time to give your home a garden to enjoy. You provide a garden picnic full of the scents and sounds of summer.
- You have a gorgeous house in the country. You offer to host people for one night with gourmet dinner and breakfast. You might give a tour of the gardens/house or offer some fun pleasant entertainment (or perhaps you have a pool, lake for fishing, or fire pit for relaxation). You provide all food and lodging.
- You love to take your boat out on the lake. You offer to take 4-6 people out for a sail/ride on the lake with great photo ops, perhaps even some fishing! A picnic meal before, during, or after the boat trip gives everyone a chance to mingle and get to know each other.
- You are a docent at a local museum. You offer to take people on a tour of the museum through your eyes and with insider information, perhaps even a little behind the scenes look at the museum! You provide entry fees and lunch/snack.

How will these Social Gatherings benefit Victories?

- Victories hopes to receive at least 5-10 Gatherings hosted by the Victories community each year
- Victories will collect \$50 from each registrant for each Gathering, unless hosts indicate that their Gathering should be valued at a higher amount.
- The money raised from these gatherings will help Victories grow and expand its various programs.



More Sample Social Gathering Ideas

The following is only a small sample of the types of gatherings that can be hosted by the Victories community. Victories encourages you to be creative and to harness your desire to have fun, show off, and meet new people! These gatherings can be hosted by a single person, a couple, a few Alumni, or a few couples together. Feel free to call the Victories Office if you want to run your idea past us first. The sky is the limit!

- You are an avid and frequent traveler to Italy. As host, you offer to cook or cater a gourmet Italian dinner with Italian beverages and give a presentation on Italy: why you love it, your favorite places, and all the best traveler's tips for people wanting to visit Italy.
- You are a Classical Music aficionado. You offer to host a wine and cheese evening in your home on your favorite composer, musical style, etc. Perhaps a short lecture or conversation with music samples and history. You provide all food and beverages. (An alternative: you are an avid swing dancer and provide a lesson with refreshments.)
- You are an Illinois Master Gardner and have a garden to make anyone drool. You host a gardening tour and talk about how to make the most of your space, light, and time to give your home a garden to enjoy. You provide a garden picnic full of the scents and sounds of summer.
- You have a gorgeous house in the country. You offer to host people for one night with gourmet dinner and breakfast. You might give a tour of the gardens/house or offer some fun pleasant entertainment (or perhaps you have a pool, lake for fishing, or fire pit for relaxation). You provide all food, perhaps ask guests to bring their own alcoholic beverages if desired. This type of gathering may be a higher value of \$100 per participant.
- You are a docent at a local museum. You offer to take people on a tour of the museum through your eyes and with insider information, perhaps even a little behind the scenes look at the museum! You provide entry fees and lunch/snack.
- You love anything related to England, especially royalty and High Tea. You offer to host people for an afternoon on the History of Tea, culminating in a homemade or catered High Tea fit for the Queen, including scones and cream, finger sandwiches, and finger desserts. You provide all food and tea, perhaps even mimosas!
- You love to take your boat out on the lake. You offer to take 4-6 people out for a sail/ride on the lake with great photo ops, perhaps even some fishing! A picnic meal before, during, or after the boat trip gives everyone a chance to mingle and get to know each other.



How do Social Gatherings Work?

Here's how they work:

- You decide to host an afternoon/evening gathering in your home or at a location of your choosing. These gatherings can be hosted by a single person, a couple, a few Victories Alumni, or a few couples together. You are “The Hosts.”
- The hosts write up a short description about the gathering, including information on themselves and why they chose to offer this particular gathering. (see Gathering Donation Form on next page)
- The hosts can either choose a particular day for the gathering in advance or organize the date with the people who register. We recommend choosing a date in advance and trying to stick to it, so that your experience as a host is easier.
- The hosts are responsible for all costs of the gathering. If the hosts feel the gathering should be valued at more than \$50, please indicate this on the Gathering Donation Form.
- The gathering should be for six to eight people, unless the hosts prefer a different number. This should be stated on the Gathering Donation Form.
- The hosts will fill out the Gathering Donation Form and return it to the Victories Office.
- Victories will promote the Gatherings via organizational enews, website, facebook, and at events. Hosts are also encourage to promote their Gatherings to their own networks inside and outside the Victories community.
- Victories will alert the hosts when their Gatherings are full and will send hosts the participant list with their contact information.
- Hosts are then responsible for communicating with all participants.
- Then, the fellowship and fun will begin!



Victories Social Gathering Donation Form

Please complete this form to submit a Social Gathering! All Gathering Donation Forms should be sent to the Victories Office. Forms can be mailed (5315 N Clark, #224, Chicago, IL 60640), faxed (312.386.7101), or emailed (admin@victoriesformen.org).

Name(s) of Hosts: _____

Email Addresses of Hosts: _____

Phone Numbers of Hosts: _____ home cell business

_____ home cell business

Name of Gathering: _____

Date of Gathering (or whether TBD): _____

Location of Gathering: _____
(if known)

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Number of Participants: _____ (We recommend between 6-8, but this can vary depending on the type of gathering and space. The purpose is for the gathering to be small enough for people to interact and engage with all.)

Description of Gathering should be typed or written on a separate page and submitted with this form. Description should include the following:

- Information on the hosts (who you are, your relationship to Victories, fun facts)
- Details on why you, the hosts, chose this particular type of Gathering
- Encouragements and enticements for people to register for this Gathering (self-promote!)

Responsibilities of Gathering Hosts:

- Provide a fun and interactive Gathering
- Provide food, drink, and program
- Coordinate date and time with all guests