

# About the Guide



\* Disclaimer: This individual page was developed with the intention of being used by the national team to help explain the intention, reasoning and research that informed the creation of this checklist. **This page will not be included in the final guide.**

This guide was developed through a partnership with Arizona State University (ASU) and the College of Global Futures, Masters of Sustainability Solutions degree program. It is intended to guide the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS) in the process of hosting a more sustainable Light The Night event. Not only will this guide help increase awareness around sustainability knowledge, events will produce less waste and lower the organizations environmental impact. The guide also has the potential to increase local interest and exposure for the event.

To identify areas of impact and outline sustainability practices, our team utilized the GRI Organizations' sustainability sector standards. Each category was selected from standards that GRI recommended based upon the characteristics of Light The Night Events. Our team also conducted a survey on participants and employees of the event to help inform which practices were prioritized within this guide. In addition our team identified SDGs that each category targets.

## Benefits to Incorporating Green Practices in Future Events

- Reduce waste and diverts recyclable materials from landfills.
- Lower costs.
- Provide an opportunity for new partnerships through vendors and sponsors.
- Bolster event attendance.
- Show environmental leadership.
- Create green job opportunities.

## National Team Recommendations\*\*

\*\* These items are intended to either be incorporated in a future version of this checklist, or nationally implemented by the National Leadership Team.

- Ensure that all printing materials are a minimum of 30% post-consumer content, double-sided, and processed chlorine-free
- Use event signage that is made from post-consumer, recycled, durable materials or is printed in a way that can be reused the following year
- Have a contract with external vendors that shows they prioritize sustainability practices in their mission and product sourcing
- Ensure T-Shirts are sourced from 3rd party certified sustainable materials (example: Fair Trade)
- Allow participation via web conference
- Attendees, organizers, and/or vendors contribute to carbon offset. Purchase of carbon offsets can be offered to attendees or by organizers/vendors based on estimated impacts
- Offer flexible pricing models that give discounts for certain groups, a pay-what-you-can option or other flexible pricing options

# Important Definitions

## What is sustainability?

Please take this time to define what sustainability means. This can be an opportunity to define what sustainability means to LLS.

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## What is a materiality assessment?

A materiality assessment is a process that helps an organization identify and prioritize sustainability issues that are most important to its stakeholders and business operations. It involves analyzing the social, environmental, and economic impacts of an organization's activities and determining which issues are most significant and require attention. The results of a materiality assessment can be used to inform sustainability reporting, stakeholder engagement, and sustainability strategy development.

## What are the sustainable development goals?

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a set of 17 global goals adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 2015 to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all. They cover a range of areas, including poverty, education, health, gender equality, clean water and sanitation, affordable and clean energy, climate action, and more.

