

Understanding Disabilities, Inc.
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Keystone Kops? School Committee members arrested? Community leaders in jail? If you're wondering what this could be about, you must not have heard about Understanding Disabilities' Jail & Bail fundraiser, set to take place on Sun. Sept 11th from 12 to 4 pm at the Reading Fall Street Faire.

While Understanding Disabilities may not be the first organization to use a Jail & Bail Fundraiser to support the good work it does, it may be the first Reading organization to do it.

How the Jail & Bail works is this. Individuals, or members of a group, volunteer to allow themselves to be "jailed" for a short period of time, such as 15 minutes. Those who agree to be jailed make a commitment to raise money for bail, which most will do before the event. They also have the option to raise additional funds by making phone calls from jail. All proceeds benefit Understanding Disabilities.

"All people need is a sense of humor and a willingness to raise money to help UD," says Lynda Zarrow, a former vice president of Understanding Disabilities and the current chairperson for the Jail & Bail event.

When asked why Understanding Disabilities is putting on this fundraiser now, Zarrow points out that the nonprofit is \$11,000 short of the funds needed to put on its programming for this year.

"Understanding Disabilities has been bringing disability awareness programming to the Reading public schools for over 25 years," Zarrow says. "Our goal is to continue UD's important mission, which is teaching children that we're all alike inside."

Individuals or groups willing to be "jailed" at the Reading Fall Street Faire, or interested in

helping with this event, can contact Zarrow at ud@reading.k12.ma.us. The Jail & Bail will take place on Sun. Sept 11th from 12-4 pm.