

Fundraising Ideas

There are a ton of great fundraising ideas both for the individual and the team to help you meet your goals. Be creative, have fun and ask everyone you know or meet to help support your effort.

Art Sale

This one is perfect for a kid's team. Have students produce great works of art and have a show. Parents and friends buy back their budding artists' masterpieces.

Ask everyone you meet

Even if you have sent out letters, be sure to carry a donation collection envelope with you so that when you talk to people about your event, you can ask them to donate right then. Take the donation collection envelope with you to meetings. When you carry a donation collection envelope with you, indicate your own contribution at the top. Make sure the top few donations on the form are significant. Other people are apt to follow suit; conversely, if you start with a \$5 contribution, others may follow suit with \$5. Don't prejudge whether people will give. Let them say no rather than not ask.

Auctions of All Kinds

Auction off a prime parking space at work. Auction off a half or whole day off from work. Auction a picnic lunch. Auction desserts, homemade dinners, local art work or other creative and fun items.

Book Sale

Dust off those bookshelves and have a book sale.

Boss for the Day

People bid on being boss for a day. High bid wins.

Bake Sale

Hold a Friday bake sale so employees have treats for the weekend. Ask for items to be wrapped attractively so they could be given as gifts.

Board Game Tournament

Choose a board game that everyone is familiar with and assemble teams that will compete against each other. Each team must pay a registration fee, in order to raise money. You can have a prize donated or give a portion of the proceeds as a prize. Consider selling snacks and drinks to raise extra money.

Balloon Pop

Insert a number in each balloon that corresponds to a raffle ticket. Sell balloons for a pre-determined amount, and give purchaser a raffle ticket. Purchaser pops their balloons to see if their number corresponds to the winning raffle ticket number. Give portion of proceeds raised as prize or have one donated.

Barbeque Competition

See who has the best grill skills in your office, school or neighbourhood. Create categories for different dishes (i.e. steak, burger, originality

etc.). You may even want participants to create their own BBQ sauce. Charge spectators by the plate to raise money. Give spectators a ballot with their plate, so they can vote for their favorite.

Book Club Fundraiser

Book clubs are usually free, so consider charging admission for a few weeks. You could sell refreshments for a small fee, or host a dinner and have the book discussion afterward over coffee/tea and dessert. If you're able to get discounted copies of books from a local vendor, resell to book club members for a slight mark-up.

Car Window Washes

Wash car windows at fast food restaurant drive through.

Challenge the Boss/Principal

Get the boss to agree that if you raise a certain amount, that he/she will dress up like a pig, shave his beard, sit in the dunking booth, or take a pie in the face.

Change Jar

Keep a change jar in high traffic areas. All change is donated to your team fundraising totals.

Chilli Cook Off

Bring in a few different chilli dishes and give people sample cups to taste test. They pay \$5 for a bowl of their favorite and to vote for the best chilli.

Cake Drawing Every Hour

Here is a fun and tasty idea. Team members bake different cakes, exchange tickets for a donation and then raffle the cakes each hour of the day.

Dance Party

Beach party, disco, square dance, dance for senior citizens, etc.

Dedicate

Dedicate your personal effort to someone who has won a battle with cancer, who is battling cancer, or has lost their battle – or all three. Include that in a letter along with a self-addressed envelope.

Dress Down Day

Ask every employee to contribute to your event, and in return they will be allowed to “dress down” on a specific day at work.

Dinner

Host a theme dinner. Get a hall donated and have friends and family prepare parts of the meal. Sell tickets and get some entertainment donated.

Envelopes at Restaurant Tables

Generate donations by placing an envelope at every table, stating “Please Support Our Event and the Canadian Cancer Society.” Waitresses check envelopes after each seating.

Flowers and Plants

Sell your extra house plants or potted plants and bouquets from your garden.

Gas Pump Attendant

Offer to pump gas for customers for a set price or donation. Need permission from gas station first.

Handyman for a Day

Shovel snow, rake leaves or mow your neighbour’s lawn and donate your “fee” to your event.

Ice Cream Social

Get creative and decorate your location as an old fashioned ice cream parlor and soda fountain. Set up tables with a variety of board games for patrons. Play oldies on a jukebox and charge for song requests.

Jail & Bail

For a donation, employees can be arrested and for an additional donation can post their own bail OR employees have a bounty placed on their head, are arrested, and are not set free until the entire bounty is raised (\$100+ per inmate).

Lawn Service

While you are mowing your lawn, mow someone else’s too.

Matching Funds

Ask your CEO/President to match the total raised by event. (In order for it to count toward incentives, you must turn in written confirmation prior to the event.)

Handcrafted Trinkets

Take orders for personalized bracelets, key chains, necklaces, etc., for a donation.

Percentage of Sales

Designate a percentage of one day’s sales or proceeds and let the public know so they will buy more.

Pet Service

Love pets? Walk someone’s dog.

Pot Luck Lunches at Work

Name every Wednesday “Event Pot Luck Day.” You can prepare foods, salads, desserts, etc. and

offer to employees at a set price or donation.

Quilts

Sell quilt squares made by the employees themselves. The squares can be sold in honour and in memory of people with cancer, squares 4” x 4” for \$5, 8” x 8” for \$15, and 12” x 12” for \$25.

Romance

Cater a romantic dinner for two, highest donation wins the dinner.

Smile Day Give Away

Each time you catch someone at your office smiling, they donate a designated amount to your event. Give the smiling donor a smiley face sticker or button to wear.

Unique Boutique

Collect or make unique one-of-a-kind items for raising funds via a silent or live auction.

Vacation Day

If you are holding your event with your co-workers, ask your boss if they can offer a bonus day off for the team member that raises the most money.

Wine Tasting

As with any other fundraiser, but especially with this one, the wine must be donated and all liquor liability laws must be followed.

Yard Sale

Hold the ultimate Yard Sale.

Clean up

Host a neighbourhood car wash.

Swim/Bike for Someone

Receive donations in exchange for someone signing their name, or the name of someone else, on your wetsuit or jersey.