

Community and School Fundraising Ideas

- 1. Choose the Torture** – Have donors pay \$1 a vote to decide which form of “torture” to inflict on your teacher, principal or organization’s leader (i.e. dye hair, dress as a clown, trade a job for a day).
- 2. Bingo Is Its Name-O** – Get prizes donated and charge an entrance fee.
- 3. Party Like It’s 1999** – Get entertainment and food donated and charge a ticket fee for each guest.
- 4. Spell S-U-C-C-E-S-S** – Hold a spell-a-thon with each contestant collecting donations for the number of words they spell correctly. The top winners receive donated prizes.
- 5. Smoothie Stand** – A healthy and yummy twist on the tired ol’ lemonade stand.
- 6. Strike Gold** – Participants ask friends and family to donate old jewelry they no longer wear and turn the gold in for cash.
- 7. 50/50 Raffle** – Sell raffle tickets and offer half of the proceeds as prizes.
- 8. Going Once, Going Twice** – Seek out service and product donations. Hold an online or live silent auction.
- 9. Buy a Meal** – Volunteers donate homemade meals to sell.
- 10. Karaoke Style** – Have participants raise pledges for their commitment to lip-sync and sell tickets to the performance.
- 11. Working at the Car Wash** – Coordinate group members to wash cars in a high traffic location for donations.
- 12. Cook Off** – Solicit local celebrities to enter their best dishes and have people pay to vote on the winners.
- 13. It’s a Wrap** – Coordinate with a store to offer gift wrap services during the holidays.
- 14. It Tastes so Sweet** – Get baked goods donated to sell at a large event like a dance or basketball game.
- 15. Trendy Bracelets** – Sell silicone bracelets that promote your cause.
- 16. Scratch Cards** – Donors receive a sheet of coupons for a small donation of a few dollars.
- 17. For the Birds** – Deliver a group of fake pink flamingos to a donor’s yard and leave a note explaining the cause and asking for a donation to “replant” the flamingos in the yard of the next “victim” the first donor designates.

18. **Another Man's Treasure** – Collect gently used items from group members to be sold at a yard sale.
19. **Text It** – Use a service that allows your organization to receive donations of \$5-10 by text messages.
20. **Bail Me Out** – Handcuff two willing fundraisers and let them lose when they raise “bail”.
21. **Sticky Fly** – Sell pieces of duct tape for donors to stick your group's leader to a wall suspended above the floor for a portion of an event.
22. **Sit-a-thon** – Offer babysitting services for a designated evening or two.
23. **Make it Up** – Send out invitations to a made up event and offer invitees tickets to support the cause without having to leave home.
24. **It's a Bust** – Sell balloons for \$10 each and insert a number in each that corresponds to a raffle ticket given to the purchaser. Pop a balloon for each available prize and read off the winning number.
25. **Nacho Dough** – Sell a lunch or dinner of nachos and a cookie at a church or school when participants already need to stay through a meal.
26. **Go Hairless** – Volunteers commit to shaving their heads if a specified amount is raised by a deadline.
27. **Make the Grade** – Have students get pledges for “A's” and “B's” at the beginning of a quarter and collect the donations after report card time.
28. **Change It** – Start a competition between classes, families or individuals by giving them each a coin jar to collect change for a designated amount of time. The one with the most collected wins a prize.
29. **Skip a Meal** – Sponsors commit to giving up a meal together and give the money saved to the designated cause.
30. **Holiday Shop** – Collect new and gently used items from your volunteers and resell them in gift baskets at a holiday shop.
31. **Rent-a-Worker** - Volunteers commit to working for an afternoon doing any odd jobs sponsors “hire” them to do.
32. **Egg 'Em On** – Go door to door negotiating with each neighbor for how much they will pay to see you do a crazy stunt with a raw egg (i.e. juggle, crack it on your head,

throw it up and catch it).

33. **Go Casual** – In schools or offices with specific uniforms, everyone gets to dress down if they raise enough money to meet a goal.

34. **Pay it Forward** – Give each person in your organization \$10 and a specific amount of time to use the funds to raise as much as they can for the cause.

35. **Reverse Raffle** – All potential sponsors get a raffle ticket and sell it back for \$10 to avoid getting their name drawn to do something embarrassing.

36. **Cookbook** – Group members offer their best family recipes for a cookbook.

37. **Fore!** – Hold a tournament at a golf course that will offer reduced greens fees and get prizes donated. Getting local celebrities to participate will draw more participants.

38. **Diva it Up** – Design and sell t-shirts advertising your group's cause.

39. **Work of Art** – The younger members in your organization create a drawing that is transferred onto note cards, t-shirts, mouse pads or coffee mugs for purchase.

40. **Spa Night** – Offer to have female volunteers give manis, pedis and 5 minute massages at a Women's Night Out for donations.

41. **Halloween Collection** – Use this door-to-door holiday to collect coats, candy, or change for your charity.

42. **Give it Up** – Sponsors commit to give up a regular activity for a month and donate the money they save to the designated cause.

43. **Capital Campaign** – Set a goal, make the direct ask, and avoid an endless slew of small fundraisers.

44. **Social Media Call** – Let potential donors know about your fundraising need through Facebook and Twitter.

45. **X Marks the Spot** – Sell golf balls for \$10 each and send them all down a hill with the "tossers" blindfolded. The 3 that get closest to the center of a taped "X" below win cash prizes.

46. **Eat for a Cause** – Ask a local restaurant to donate 10% of their profits on a designated night for your cause in exchange for encouraging supporters to eat there.

47. **Matching Gift** – Ask a corporation or individual to match any donations your organization collects in a specified amount of time. Then, contact potential donors about giving to match the gift.

48. **Birthday Pledge** – Ask for donations to a favorite cause instead of birthday gifts.

49. **Who's Got Talent** – Hold a talent show with an entry fee for each act and sell tickets.

50. **Pump it Up** – Coordinate with a local gas station to have volunteers serve as gas station attendants who pump gas and clean windshields for donations for a day