

FUNDRAISING IDEAS



All You Can Eat Potato Bar – You will want to have baked potatoes with all the fixin's. Chili, sour cream, shredded cheese, butter, steamed broccoli, melted cheese, chives, bacon bits, sautéed onions, sautéed mushrooms, hot peppers, ham, and spices... The possibilities are endless.

Baby Face Contest – employees bring photos of themselves as babies. Other employees guess who to match up, the winning employee receives a prize.

Bake Sales – Ask employees to bring their favorite cakes, cookies or breads. Even a small office can raise a lot of money with minimal effort. Sell per item or by the dozen.

Balloon Pop – Place gift cards or small prizes inside balloons and sell raffle tickets to get a chance to pop the \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50 etc. balloon at your campaign wrap up celebration.

Baskets for Auction – Gather your department and create themed baskets for a raffle. Basket theme ideas include, Backyard BBQ, Wine Lover, Beer Lover, Activities for the Kids, Movie Night, etc.

BOOgrams/TURKEYgrams/TREEgrams – send a telegram to your coworkers, pay per gram. Themed telegrams that include a note and candy/treats. Proceeds go to United Way.

Bowling Tournament – Set up a bowling alley in a hallway using bottled water and a ball. Charge participants to enter. Participants can get pledges for the number of pins knocked over.

CHILDREN'S DRAWING CONTEST – Give employees a page to take home for their children to color or draw. Charge a \$5 entry fee to vote for the best portraits. Display the winning portraits as part of the organization's art collection.

Chili Cook-Off Contest - Ask employees to cook a favorite chili recipe and enter it into a cook-off contest. Invite employees to pay \$5 for lunch. Have a panel of nominated chili experts to select the official chili champion.

Come to work late/leave early pass -for employee who donates a certain amount, they get a pass or entered into a raffle for one of these.

Competition between Companies – Do you have a vendor or a competitor that also runs a workplace giving campaign with United Way? Consider doing a friendly competition between companies. Most raised? Most participation? The winning company has to provide the other company with a prize (i.e.: hosted lunch, tickets to a sporting event, etc.).

Days Off with Pay – offer employees their birthday off, coupon for day off with pay, or raffle off PTO.

Executive Auction – Get the executive staff to donate half a day to the campaign. Then auction each executive off to employees. The executive must take over the employee's job for that half day.

Flamingo Insurance – Company purchases 20 inexpensive flamingos (stuffed, on a stand, etc.). Employees can purchase Flamingo Insurance from HR for \$5 to insure that no flamingos can enter their office or cubicle. Employees pay \$5 to send a flamingo to an office or cubicle that does not have a Flamingo Insurance sign provided by HR. If you receive a flamingo in your office, you can pay \$2 to send it away.

Hallway Golf – Form teams, get creative, and create golf holes throughout your office floors. Incorporate United Way's mission, by conducting a food or book drive and use the

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raised items to create the holes. Employees pay to participate in the golf.

Leadership Lunch – During the campaign, encourage participation amongst employees. The department with the highest participant gets to attend a lunch or dinner hosted by all senior leadership. Lunch can also be for those that are Bridgebuilders (Leadership Giving - \$500 and up)

Mobile Food Sales – Host a coffee cart, taco truck, ice cream bar. Sales of all items come to United Way.

Pancake & Waffle Breakfast – Host a pancake or waffle breakfast for employees. Charge employees for the ticket. Encourage leadership to serve food at breakfast to show their support for the campaign

Parking Spot –offer a raffle for a free parking spot – the best one or the closest one to the building for that matter.

Point System Competition – During the campaign develop a point system to encourage participation and a friendly-competition between departments. For example:

- 1-point for contributing to food drive during campaign
- 2-points for attending a campaign event (i.e.: kick-off, meeting, etc.)
- 3-points for volunteering during the campaign
- 4-points for giving to the campaign
- 5-points for increasing gift from last year

Pumpkin Decorating Contest – People vote by donating money to the best decorated pumpkin!

Recipe Exchange – have team members submit their favorite recipes to share in an electronic cookbook. Charge a set amount to “buy” the book.

Socktober Fest – Have a day where people wear their best quirky socks. People vote by donating money. **OR**, do a drive where people also donate socks.

Other Incentives – casual day, gift certificates, tickets to games/movies, grocery certificates, dinner for two, company t-shirts, hotel getaways, trophy for department with highest participation, tickets to local events, flowers each month.

Thinking of an idea and want to involve us?
Give Columbus Area United Way a call at 402-564-5661 so we can get in on the fun!

REMEMBER...

- Remember The Basics
- Educate, Don't Pressure
- Invite A Speaker
- Publicize Your Campaign
- Thank Your Contributors