



Fifty Ways to Raise Funds — and Fun — During Your United Way Campaign

Check out the following ideas for special events, incentives and promotions to promote team building and get more employees involved in the United Way Campaign. Many of these activities will also help to show how donations to United Way's Community Fund can really make a difference for local people in need!

Games & Contests

1. Pie in the face
2. Miniature indoor golf
3. Lunchtime bingo
4. Candy jar raffle
5. Competitions (inter-departmental or inter-company, e.g., golf challenge, lip sync challenge, race)
6. Bowl-a-thon
7. Carnival/Dunking booth
8. E-mail bingo (buy cards and play different variations)
9. Baby photos – match the baby photo with the manager or employee
10. Cutest Pet Contest

Prizes, Drawings & Cash

11. 50/50 drawing
12. Spare change jugs
13. Daily prize drawings or balloon pop for: Restaurant/ Mall gift cards, suite seats at games, tickets for sporting events, concerts, night at hotel
14. Lottery
15. Draw for a day off
16. Collect cans and bottles

Food Fun

17. Breakfast
18. Specialized food sales – candy bars, pies, international food
19. Daily donations for donuts, coffee, snacks, etc.
20. Lunch box/basket auction
21. Tailgate/Cookout
22. Baked goods contest/Sale
23. Ice Cream Social
24. Chili Cook-off
25. Walking Taco Wagon
26. Egg Baby-Care for an egg for a day (\$2 to have another person baby-sit, \$5 hospital charge if egg breaks.)

Sales Events

27. Online auction
28. Recipe Book
29. Garage Sale
30. Car wash
31. Book sale
32. Gift basket sale
33. Silent/Live auction

Miscellaneous Incentives

34. Dress Down/Slipper Day
35. Sports Team Day – Wear your favorite team apparel
36. Challenge between departments based on participation, increase in average gift or first department completed.
37. Walk/Run fundraisers – Participants get sponsor to pledge total amount or \$ amount per mile

More Fun Ideas

38. Share your campaign updates on social media (e.g., employee testimonials, campaign newsletter)
39. Executives serving breakfast/dinner to employees who won a drawing
40. Executives prepare a feast for employees during a campaign event
41. Ugly Lamp Exchange – Must pay \$5 to have lamp removed from your area.
42. Wine raffle
43. Sell/Raffle donated products
44. Palm reading/fortune telling
45. Use of prime parking space for designated time
46. Theatre tickets or tickets to sporting events
47. Dinner for two with the boss
48. Spa/massage day
49. Flower sale
50. Casino night



United Way
of Greater Rochester

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Incentives & Competitions

Sponsor contests that revolve around your campaign effort and offer incentives/prizes to contributors. These are examples of ideas that have been used successfully by other organizations.

During your campaign you can give employees extra incentives based upon their status, i.e.:

- For a returned pledge form – 1 drawing ticket
- For a new contributor – 1 drawing ticket
- For an increased gift – 1 drawing ticket
- Individual incentives – departments, divisions or “teams” of employees compete for top results and a group prize

OTHER IDEAS AND CONTESTS

- “The Gift of Time” – ½ day or day off with pay (many variations)
- Raffle off the boss. Employees increasing their pledge or a new pledge receives a chance to win the boss and have him/her perform their job for one hour.
- Senior executive wears the same tie for one week. As company approaches its goal, the tie gets shorter each day to mark campaign progress
- Challenge between departments based on % participation or % increase in giving or average gift
- Gift for department coordinator who delivers best results

FUNdraising Do’s and Don’ts

Decide that this is the year to have fun by using special events and other creative activities in your organization’s campaign. Special events are FUN and are an excellent method of raising United Way awareness in your office. Review the guidelines listed below, discuss your plan with your United Way campaign representative and go for it.

DO

- DO talk to contributors.
- DO check out your ideas with your CEO.
- DO something different to bring interest to your campaign.
- DO solicit services and/or items from your co-workers.
- DO use a special event to focus attention on the campaign—not as the total campaign effort.
- DO use special events as frosting on the cake—to help you meet and exceed your “stretch” goal.
- DO tie special events, where appropriate, to completed pledge cards . . . and encourage the use of payroll deduction.

DON’T

- DON’T surprise your boss with a golf tournament on company time!
- DON’T do “the same old thing.”
- DON’T overlook the tried and true elements of a successful campaign—personal contact!
- DON’T forget your well-planned employee solicitation campaign.