

of fundraising events

There are a huge range of events you could run to help boost your fundraising target. Here are a few ideas to inspire you from our Fundraising Events Team and some of our fundraisers...

Aa**Bb****Aerobics-athon**

Get out the neon and lycra and organise an aerobicsathon. Run the session yourself or ask an instructor if they'd be willing to give up their time in support. Let people know that the cost of their ticket is going towards a good cause! You could also get people to sponsor you and your other class members for how long you can last!

Air miles

Are you a frequent flyer but don't use your air miles? You could sell them off or raffle them to raise money.

Auction

Ever wanted to bang a gavel? Then why not put on an auction. Ask friends, family, work, and local business to donate prizes and services to put under the hammer.

Bad tie day

Do you have some hideous ties hidden at the back of your wardrobe, any handed down from a bygone era or that are just a real fashion faux-pas? Get sponsored to wear these for a day, a week or even more!

Bag packing

Why not ask your local supermarket if you can hold a bag packing day? Ask for a donation from everyone you pack a bag for and get your friends to join you.

Bake sale

Bake sales are a great way to raise money at work, appealing to mid-afternoon munchies. Ask colleagues to help you by baking their speciality cakes and treats, or even challenge them to a bake-off, charging non-bakers to 'judge' your efforts and pick a star baker.

Cc**Dd**

Battle of the bands

Rock out with a battle of the bands! Are any of your friends musicians? Get them together to put on a concert to raise money. Charge an entrance fee or suggest a donation. If you're holding it at a pub or a bar why not ask if you can put a collection tin on the bar or if you can take a cut of the drinks takings?

Bingo

Everyone loves a bit of bingo, young or old! So why not set up your very own bingo night? Charge a fee per game for people to play along.

Christmas cards

Do you have festive flair for design, or some great Christmas photos? Design your very own range of Christmas cards to sell to friends, family or colleagues – why not even ask your local newsagent to stock them!?

Coffee morning

Bring people together by holding a coffee morning. Hold a cake sale at your event and sell those baked treats to raise more pennies.

Crafternoon tea

Do you have a crafting skill that you could teach others? Knitting, papier-mâché, crochet, découpage...? Why not invite over some friends and get creative, asking for a donation towards the new expertise they're learning? Throw in some tea and cake and have a Crafternoon Tea!

Cyber-jumble sale

We all have a few gadgets or items of clothing we don't use any more, or perhaps some unwanted gifts. Set up a stall at a car boot sale to shift them, or sell your unwanted items on ebay.com and donate your profits to Teach First with eBay for Charity.

Dinner party

Everyone loves going out for dinner. Why not invite over your nearest and dearest and on top of the usual 'bring a bottle', ask for a donation towards your fundraising? You could raise extra money on the night by selling drinks, or even running a mini raffle or quiz.

Dress up / down day

Ask your employer if you can arrange a dress-down Friday or even something more adventurous - super hero fancy dress, Hawaiian shirt day, or Christmas jumper day. These are great fun and are a good opportunity to run other things like sweepstakes, bake sales or raffles.

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Ff

Gg

Hh

Ii

Egg and spoon race

It's a classic! A silly sports tournament in the office, including egg-and-spoon or three-legged races, could give everyone a good laugh and raise plenty of money.

Five-a-side football

Are you and your friends/colleagues footie fanatics? Challenge them to a football tournament; why not get the whole office involved?! Each team pays an entry fee.

Fashion show

Have you got a flair for fashion, a love of design? Or maybe you and your friends have wardrobes full of fashion you no longer wear? Sell tickets for entry and sell/auction off the wears?

Give it up

What's your weakness? What is it that you just can't do without? Whether it's chocolate or chardonnay, swearing or soap operas, tea or texting. Show people you can go without it for a week or even a month, and ask them to sponsor your abstemious efforts or put some of the money you save towards your total!

Guess the number of ... (sweets in a jar etc)

How many sweets are in that jar? How many balloons are in that car? Challenge people to guess the amount. Charge 50p or £1 for a guess, the winner gets to keep the contents or a prize of your choosing.

Hair-raising fundraising!

Shave your head or dye your hair a wacky colour for charity and ask your friends to sponsor you. Make sure you reach your target before you reach the barber's chair so you won't be left empty-handed and empty-headed!

Indoor Olympics

Capture the excitement of the Olympics with your own indoor sports tournament. From bin basketball to running machine marathons, it's a great way to get the whole office involved with team and individual challenges.

Jj**Kk****Ll****Mm**

Jumble sales

A fantastic excuse to clear out the clutter and raise money at the same time. Bring your unwanted items to your local car boot sale or set up your own jumble sale. Your friends and colleagues may also be able to donate unwanted items to help build up your stock.

Karaoke

Put your vocal talent to the test and bring your friends and family together for an evening of Karaoke. Ask everyone to donate a pound or two to play their favourite tracks.

Laugh a minute

Comedy nights are a fantastic way to raise money and have a great time. Enquire at a local university - there are often plenty of budding young comics who'll take part in a fundraiser for free to help them practice their materials and get exposure.

Matched giving

If you work for a for-profit business, ask your employer if they have matched-giving. Lots of companies double the sponsorship their employees raise for good causes – just ask, or check out the matched-giving policy on your employer's intranet.

Massage

Are you good with your hands? Offer lunchtime head and shoulder massages to colleagues at lunchtime – it will be a great way for them to de-stress in the office and for you to make more money for 15 minutes' work.

Nn

Oo

Pp

Qq

Name that baby

Ask your colleagues to hand over photos of themselves as babies and charge others a pound to guess who they are.

Odd jobs

Why not spend the weekend helping friends and family with all those odd jobs? Hold your own car wash, help with DIY chores, or run your own ironing or gardening service and you'll soon be raking in the cash.

Pamper night

From hair masques, massages, make-overs and manicures – there are lots of ways to pamper your mates for a couple of hours. Get your best luxury products together, along with some champagne, chocolates, scented candles and a relaxing playlist – it will be an indulgent treat worth splashing some cash on for your donors!

Poetry slam

You might be surprised by how many people enjoy writing in their spare time. Ask your friends and family if they'd be happy to share some of their creations, or even just a reading of their favourite poem written by someone else. Charge people to attend and make additional money by selling drinks and nibbles.

Quiet please!

Silence is golden. Now it's your chance to turn it into hard cash! Hold a sponsored silence at work, or at school, and watch the money roll in!

Quiz time

A perennial favourite – something about the combination of beer, trivia and healthy competition is irresistible! Invite your mates and neighbours to your local pub and try your hand as Quiz Master. You'll just need to compile some questions and perhaps ask local businesses to provide some prizes.

Rr**Ss****Tt****Uu**

Raffles

Hold a raffle at work or in your local community using prizes donated by family, friends or local businesses.

Save your pennies

Is your wallet bulging with spare change? Empty those coins into a jar at the end of each day and you'll start to see the money building up. Add a swear-jar element in your office and you'll be well on your way towards your fundraising target.

Second-hand book sale

Are your bookshelves and attic rammed with old books that you'll never read again? Set up a lunchtime book stall at work or at a local car boot sale. Ask friends and family to donate their unwanted books too.

Tug of war

Go retro with your fundraising and organise a good old-fashioned tug-of-war! Set up a competition, charge an entry fee and pitch departments or friends against each other.

Uniform day

Get everyone in your office to wear their old school uniform for the day and charge a couple of quid to take part.

University challenge

Hold your very own specialist knowledge contest based on the classic TV quiz show. Ask your friends or colleagues to form teams and charge an entry fee, and ask for a donation fee to come along to watch the show.

Vv**Ww****Xx****Yy****Zz**

Vegetarian or vegan challenge

If you're a confirmed carnivore, try going without meat for a month in return for sponsorship. For an extra challenge, why not avoid any animal-derived products, including eating or drinking dairy or wearing leather – it's harder than you think!

World food festival

Get your cookbooks at the ready and rustle up some culinary treats from across the globe. If you have friends from other countries ask them to help you by cooking something traditional. Sell your creations and ask customers to guess the origin of each dish.

X Factor

Hold a contest to showcase the many and varied musical talents of your friends and colleagues. Have a collection to attend and make extra money by selling drinks and nibbles or running a raffle.

Yoga classes

If you're into yoga or Pilates why not use your knowledge and skills to teach other people the techniques? A great selling point for colleagues is the de-stressing factor for lunch breaks at work, or could easily be done with family and friends and the weekends.

Zumba-thon

The Zumba craze is sweeping the country. Turn this to your advantage by asking your local instructor if they will give up their time and hold a free session to help you raise money.

**If you need any support contact Rosita Helg in the Fundraising
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