

FUNDRAISING EVENTS & INCENTIVE IDEAS

WINE MYSTERY– Ask leadership to donate bottles of wine. Wrap the bottles of wine so the bottle cannot be seen. Display them at your United Way kick-off. Employees can purchase a ticket for \$10 to choose a mystery bottle of wine. \$\$

DINNER FOR A WEEK– Solicit seven local restaurants for a gift certificate for dinner for two. Sell raffle tickets for \$30. Winner gets all gift certificates. Or, try for five certificates for enough for one meal and call it “Lunch on Us!” \$\$

TIME OFF– Ask management for approval to offer time off to employees who give at a decided level. \$

ROOT BEER FLOATS SALES– Seek donations of root beer, vanilla ice cream, cups and straws. Have a committee schedule shifts to sell root beer floats for a donation to United Way. \$\$

CHANGE FOR A CHANGE– Each department gets an empty water jug. Employees in that department fill jug with coins throughout campaign. Department that fills their jug the highest gets a pizza party. \$

BINGO– Make BINGO cards and sell them for \$5. Every day send an email with a square, or post it in a common area (lunch room). You can be creative with BINGO card squares instead of numbers try using words related to United Way and your business. Have prizes for the first two BINGO winners. \$

SILENT AUCTION– Ask each department to make a basket. Display all baskets with a sheet of paper in front of them. Employees can write down their bids throughout the day. Winners with highest bids will be announced at the end of the day. Take it to the next level by asking each department to tell you the value of their baskets. After the silent auction compare the value with the amount raised from each basket. The department basket that raised the most compared to the value gets a pizza party. \$\$

PARTY CARDS– Have your “creative employees” design and create various greeting cards (Congratulations, Happy Birthday, Get Well, Happy Holidays, etc.) and sell them with all proceeds benefiting United Way. Take it a step further by adding in a prize (like lunch) to the department that sells the most. \$

PUMPKIN CARVING– Ask a local farm to donate pumpkins. Sell pumpkins for \$10, employees can bring pumpkins home and have one week to carve. All completed pumpkins should displayed in a common area. Employees vote on scariest pumpkin, funniest pumpkin, most creative, and best traditional pumpkin. Winners get a prize. \$\$

SNOOZE OR CRUISE– Employees may purchase raffle tickets for \$1 throughout campaign. At the end of the campaign raffle off 5 Snooze or Cruise cards. Snoozer or Cruise certificate allow staff to come in 30 minutes later one morning or leave 30 minutes early one afternoon. \$

EXECUTIVE PARKING SPOT– Employees may purchase raffle tickets for \$1 throughout the campaign for a premier parking spot. If you have executive parking, ask a leadership to give up their spot for 2 weeks and raffle off two or designate a spot closest to the building entrance. \$

OFFICE ZEN– Ask a yoga instructor to host two yoga classes in a large conference room. Charge \$5 for employees to attend the Yoga class. Send out reminder emails and hang flyers throughout office of class date and times. \$

DRESS DOWN– Employees can donate \$10 in exchange for the ability to wear jeans every Friday in one month, or jeans for an entire week. This can also be done with crazy leggings or hats! \$

ICE CREAM SOCIAL– Purchase a few boxes of ice cream sandwiches. Invite staff to purchase an ice cream and enjoy with their fellow co-workers at specific time. \$\$

\$– Minimum time/cost \$\$– Medium time/cost \$\$\$– Maximum time/cost

Fundraising Events & Incentive Ideas (continued)

BALLOON POP– Insert a slip of paper in several balloons and then blow them up. On some write fun facts about United Way. On others write prizes such as, “you won lunch on the boss” or “you won \$5 towards the company store.” \$\$

TREASURE HUNT– Sell daily clues to a mystery location in your building where a treasure is hidden. The first employee to guess the location wins the treasure. \$

CAR WASH– Have a committee wash employee cars for \$10. Car wash can held in employee parking lot for an hour after the normal work day ends. \$

AWARD WINNING PIE– Employees can enter their pie tastings. Employees can enter to taste all pies and vote for their favorite for \$5. Best pie baker gets a “Best Pie” award and a small prize such as oven mitts and kitchen towels (can be purchased for less than \$5.) Pie can be substituted with chili, meatballs, brownies, or any other yummy popular foods! \$

SPIRIT WEEK– Charge employees to participate in a United Way spirit week. Each day employees are allowed to dress for that day’s theme. Some popular themes are 80s, crazy hair day, pajama day, tie-dye day, super hero day, sport team day, Jersey Day, Disney day, and Twin day. Take it a step further and ask employees to vote for the most spirited and award them with a certificate for their birthday off (or a prize.) \$

OFFICE OLYMPICS– Set up several events individuals can participate in for a donation. Have a “gold metal” (gold wrapped candy tapped to ribbon; Twix, Rollo’s, chocolate coins) for the individual that finishes all events the fastest or multiple prizes for winner of each event. Spectators can also place “bets” (additional donations) on who they think is going to win. Events can include paper ball basketball, desk chair soccer, table tennis, paper pack holds, and stress ball curling! \$

ART AUCTION/RAFFLE– Ask a local artist or crafters (maybe even one of your employees) to donate a piece of their art. Sell raffle tickets depending on the value of the item, pull the raffle at the end of your campaign or have a silent auction where employees can email you their bids throughout the campaign. Send updates frequently and announce the winner at the end of the campaign. \$

BASKETS RAFFLE– Ask each department to make a basket. Display all baskets with a paper bag or basket in front of them. Sell raffle tickets all day on your final campaign day. Raffles can be 1 for \$1, 10 for \$5. Pull raffles at the end of the day. \$\$\$

BOTTLE & CAN DRIVE– Run a bottle and can drive for an entire month. Ask employees to bring their bottles in and store them in a designated area. Return bottles at the end of the campaign and present amount to UW. Name the event something clever like “You CAN Make a Difference!” \$

WORK FAMILY COOKBOOK– Ask employees to send you their favorite family recipe. Collect recipes and create an employee cookbook. Be creative by creating a front page using your company logo! Sell cookbooks for \$5. \$

LOLLIPOP PULL– Color the tips of lollipops. Each color represents a prize. Stick all lollipops in a styrofoam ball. Employees pay \$2 to pull a lollipop and win a prize. Some prizes can include large items like executive parking and an item from the company store. Some colors will represent small items like candy bar or high-five! Be creative! \$\$

CANDY-GRAM– Purchase a large bag of lollipops. Create a special form for employees to write a compliment on and attach to the lollipop. Charge employees \$1 to send a compliment and lollipop to another employee on designated day. \$

\$– Minimum time/cost \$\$– Medium time/cost \$\$\$– Maximum time/cost