

Special Event Fundraising Ideas for Workplace Campaigns

Food Related Events



Bake Sale

Ask employees to bake their favorite cookies or other baked goods. Sell plates of treats to employees. Charge an additional fee for the recipe.

Employee Cookbook

Encourage employees to donate their favorite recipes to be collected, published, and sold in a company cookbook.

International Food Day

Employees can celebrate their diversity by serving foods from around the world. Employees can purchase tickets redeemable for food items at the event. Award prizes for the best entrée or dessert.

Breakfast of Champions

Employees will arrive early for this morning treat! Serve up orange juice, coffee, lattes, yogurt, muffins, and all the fixings for a good breakfast!

Bake/Cook Off

Be creative with your cooking! Hold a contest for the tastiest desserts, cupcakes, bread, stir-fry, hot dishes, etc. Have categories with most creative, best of show, spiciest or most unusual. The sky is the limit! Host a potluck or auction off the entries.

Build Your Own Sundae

Create a sundae bar with an assortment of ice creams and a wide variety of toppings.



Marshfield Area United Way

Menu Auction

Ask employees to donate menus that they would prepare. These menus are then auctioned. For example: Specialty Coffee and Dessert for Four; Spaghetti Dinner for Six; Indian Meal for Two; Fondue for Four. As an added touch do not reveal names of the cooks until after the menu is sold, to create suspense as to who would be cooking for meals. The date of each dinner should be negotiated between the cooks and successful bidders.

Pumpkin Carving Contest

Have categories for the scariest, traditional, or creative pumpkins. Paint or use props if you do not want carved pumpkins. Hold a pumpkin themed recipe contest for muffins, stews or other yummy pumpkin concoctions.

Shake Social

Mix up shakes or serve ice cream to create a social hour for employees to sit back and relax.

Chili Cook-Off

Employees cook their favorite chili recipe to be judged by coworkers. Or, have a potluck for employees to bring their favorite dishes.

Attendees judge the best batch.

Cookie/Candy Gram

Have volunteers bake several varieties of cookies. Employees purchase cookies for co-workers and the cookies are delivered to their office. Include a message of appreciation/thanks with each package of cookies. Package with United Way logo.

Sport Related Events



Marshfield Area United Way

Office Mini Golf

Set up a mini-golf course at the workplace using slinkies, ramps, "water hazards," sand traps. Enter teams and have a mini-golf outing just like one on a real course.

United Way Olympics

Employee teams compete with each other for prizes in outrageous outdoor events, including sponge toss, water balloon toss, egg toss, three-legged race or bat-spin races.

Tailgate Party

Perfect for a football theme! Employees toss footballs at a target to earn prizes. Also, great to incorporate tailgating food. Hold the party before a game and wear your Packer gear!

Sports Trivia

Exercise your mind and test the sports fanatics!

Bean Bag Toss or Ladder Golf

Set up baggo boards or ladder golf inside or outside. Have employees form teams and play against one another. Most points win, charge entry fees and/or penalties when opposing team gets a ringer.

Volleyball Tourney

Host a volleyball tournament within your organization. Teams pay an entry fee to compete. Make it interesting: Blind Volleyball, Mud Volleyball, etc. Gather people who play already and have them play for a good cause.

Dunking Booth

Charge per ball to dunk an executive or manager.

Pie In The Face

Throw a pie of your choice at your boss or manager.

Office Chair Races

Have employees race their office chairs using their feet or plungers to push themselves along! Set a course, create rules, make wagers, and set penalties.

Frisbee Golf Tournament

Have an outing on the local Frisbee golf course and raise money like a regular golf tournament.

Office Power Run

New spin to this event-set up stations in your office. Participants pay entry fee and are given a map or clues for the route. As participants check in at each periodic check point, they are given a playing card. Best poker hand at the end of the race wins.

Table Sports Tournaments

Host a ping pong, air hockey or foosball tournament. See who has the best hand-eye coordination as the battle of table top games progress!

Golf Putt

Supply a putting green and club. Employees pay per putt for a chance to win prizes.

Paper Airplane Toss

All Contestants pay \$2.00 for each sheet of the designated airplane paper. Use hula-hoops as your targets. Have people throw airplanes into hula hoops for accuracy tests, have a competition for furthest flight, and award prizes for best designated aircraft.

Scavenger Hunt

Employees participate in a scavenger hunt that requires them to find unusual items from around the neighborhood or office building. You can plant items with selected employees. Teams of four pay a group entry fee. Have a prize for winning team.

All Other Special Event Fundraising Ideas



Marshfield Area United Way

Sell Raffle Tickets

Raffle prizes could include: vacation time, VIP parking, 50/50 raffle, gift cards, airline tickets, sporting event tickets, etc.

Jeans Day

Employees pay to not wear "normal" work attire. Get as casual as needed. Added Bonus-Sell United Way t-shirts and allow employees to wear them on Jeans Day.

Silent Auction

The company donates auction items such as furniture, electronics, gift cards, company apparel, etc. Employees can also donate items/services.

Guess The Number

Fill a clear jar with candy and have employees pay for a chance to guess the number of pieces in the jar. The most accurate will win the candy or another prize.

Penny Wars

Divide the office by departments/teams and have a money jar assigned to each. Create competition rules about putting spare change in the jar. For example, members of each department deposit pennies, nickels, and dimes into their own jar and place quarters or bills into jars of other departments. Pennies count as positive, while quarters and bills are negative. The department with the highest positive number wins a prize.

Theme Baskets

Each department within your company sponsors a theme basket (golf, chocolate, day of pampering, etc.) by purchasing products to fill it up. The baskets are then auctioned off.

Guess The Baby Picture

Employees bring their baby pictures to work and post the photos a few days prior to the event. Contestants pay to enter the contest and pay to match employees to their baby pictures.

Decorating Contest

Have a door, window or sculpture decorating contest, with the winning team getting free lunch or other prizes.

Costume or Look-a-Like Contest

Dress up in any costume or as a celebrity and vote best costume.

Talent Contest

Ask employees to show off their hidden talents. Award prizes for the funniest talent, craziest talent, and most creative.

Envelope Contest

Envelopes available for purchase with one containing a prize such as Packer tickets and the rest containing United Way facts. Make sure all the envelopes look the same and have employees pick one.

Dress-Up the Boss

Employees all vote on costume idea and whatever costume wins, the boss will have to wear.