

## A-Z of fundraising ideas

### A

- **Ask** around, get ideas and support – you'll never know what you could achieve if you don't!
- **Art** – do you know a painter, photographer or potter? Get donations and hold an exhibition/sale
- **Auction** of 'promises' or a slave auction (get someone to offer to be a slave for the day or your manager to make coffee for the department for the week. Colleagues can bid for their services).

### B

- **Baby** competition – ask colleagues or friends to bring in baby photos of themselves. People pay to guess who's who – great fun and prizes for the winners
- **Bring and buy**, at work, garden, community centre
- **Be shameless!** Keep talking about your fundraising efforts and training. Get people involved
- **Babysitting** and child minding
- **Barbecues**

### C

- **Car boot** sale
- **Church**, or place of worship collection
- **Company contacts** – ask your suppliers for sponsorship, gift donations (get permission)
- **Coffee** morning, cake sale – ask a local cookery class or school to help.

### D

- **Dress down** for the day. Pay for the privilege
- **Diet** – you, friends and colleagues - £1 per pound
- **Drink** – get sponsored to give up alcohol
- **DJ** – do you, your children or friends know one? Ask them to do the music for your event.

### E

- **Email** – invites and reminders to friends, their friends' friends
- **Ever ready** – keep your eyes open to opportunities and your sponsorship form handy (if appropriate).

### F

- **Fashion** show
- **Fancy dress** party or day
- **Fetes** and **fairs** – have a stall
- **Fine box** for colleagues' swearing or lateness
- **Football kit** day at work. Pay to wear one.

### G

- **Golf** Day - tournament
- **Guess** the number – e.g. balloons in a car, sweets in a jar etc.
- **Games:** monopoly, chess tournament, team trivial pursuit, scrabble – pay to enter, donated prizes.

### H

- **Hobbies** – what hobbies can help you raise money sport, walking, cycling, art and craft, aromatherapy, massage etc.
- **Horse** racing & dogs – sweepstake at work.

### I

- **Ink** – write to everyone you possibly can
- **International** – think about the country you're raising money for (if appropriate). Tie it in to your party, dinner or stall.

### J

- **Jazz** night
- **Jumble** sale

### K

- **Karaoke** evening (pay not to sing perhaps)
- **Kick-off** – 5-a-side tournament – work, pubs

## L

- **Line dancing** evening
- **Library** – get your friends, family, colleagues to get a book from the library instead of buying it and to give you the money they've saved
- **Lambada** party
- **Lunch-less** – set a date for all your colleagues to bring in a packed lunch and then to give you the money they would have spent.

## M

- **Matched donation** from your company
- **Murder mystery** party
- **Meal** – ask a restaurant for reduced prices if you bring a large party on a weekday evening. Charge cover price plus extra. Raffle and games too.

## N

- **Never** give up.
- **Neighbours**. Offer to wash their windows, mow the lawn or throw a street party (if its big and in the street, get council authorisation). Charge admission.

## O

- **Organise** events within events – why not hold a raffle at your party or an auction at your sports tournament?
- **Opera** – try to get a group discount on opera or theatre tickets and then charge everyone a bit extra for the outing.

## P

- **Party** –50s, 60s, 70s, 80s beach, Easter, out of season Christmas, or no theme – just for fun!
- **Police** Cell – ask if you can use a cell for the night. Get your work colleagues to sponsor you or your boss/director to spend the night there
- **Pub** crawl (fancy dress or three legged)
- **Public** humiliations – get the director of the company in stocks and then throw tomatoes at them – the more senior the better!

## Q

- **Quiz** night – organise one, ask your local pubs to give you a percentage of the takings
- **Quiet** time – get a local youth group to do a sponsored silence with you

## R

- **Raffle** – get local businesses to donate prizes
- **Races** – Three-legged, egg and spoon, relay
- **Relatives** – Make the most of talented relatives who may be able to donate services, artwork etc. Get all of your family to ask all of their friends to sponsor you/come along to your events too.

## S

- **Services** – ask a hairdresser, beautician, masseur, tarot reader friend to come to your event and donate their proceeds or a day's tips
- **Sponsored** activities – you and friends can walk, swim, dance, fast, bungee jump etc.
- **Spot** the cowpat not the ball! Use alternative picture. People pay to play - donated prize or cash
- **Shave** off your beard – or someone else's (and get people to sponsor you)
- **Street** party
- **Smoking** – sponsored abstinence, or/and donate the money you save

## T

- **Treasure** Hunt
- **Twenty-four-hour** marathon: darts, stay awake or dancing. Sponsored or have a team competition
- **Tail** – pin the tail on the donkey. Pay to play, donated prizes
- **Tin** – collection tin or bucket to take to events: (make sure you get permission); contact ActionAid for details.

## U

- **Use** your network of colleagues and friends to come up with ideas and help with activities
- **Unwanted and unused** gifts – ask friends and family, colleagues: use for prizes or car boot sale.

## V

- **Valet** service: offer to clean cars inside and out for all your family, friends and colleagues

## W

- **Website** – ask work if you can have a bit of space
- **Wine** and cheese party – homemade wine, prizes and cheese donated. Guess the wine's country game. Charge admission and for entering games

- **Waltz** – big band night (use old-time records if can't find a band) dinner-dance, admission fee.

## **X**

- **X-ercise** - get your local gym to organise a work-out-a-thon
- “**Xtra, Xtra** read all about it” – write a press release about your activity (we can help), or write to the Letter's Page of your local newspaper for support, sponsorship and promotion.

## **Y**

- **Young and old** – organise a big family reunion for all ages. Ask for donations, they're bound to vie with each other over who gives you the most!

## **Z**

- **Zest and zeal** – essential if you are going to make the best of your fundraising. Your challenge is demanding and exciting and your fundraising will make a real difference to people's lives. You should feel proud that you're doing it.