

# 50 Fundraising Ideas

Any fundraiser can be done for a cause or another organization because people will always be sympathetic, but not every fundraiser can be done for administrative fees. Most people don't understand exactly why our CKI clubs need money and sometimes before we get to explain they might assume. These fundraisers were made so we don't run into that issue. Usually they were the fundraisers that are offering a service or are not cause oriented.

## Sub-Categories

- *Large event space*
- *Small event space*
- *Anytime of year*
- *Specific time of year*
- *Outside event*
- *Inside Event*
- *Can be done in conjunction with a meeting or other event*
- *Requires going door to door or around campus*
- *Requires you to contact outside sources ex. Restaurants or companies*

### 1) **50-50 Raffle** ■■

Your only fundraising expense is the raffle tickets. A double ticket roll is ideal, especially if the winners need not be present at the drawing to win, be sure to have contact information on the portion of the ticket turned in for the drawing. All you need is one or more ticket sellers. Raffle tickets normally sell for \$1 each, with an incentive for multiple purchases such as 3 tickets for \$2, or 5 tickets for \$4, etc. Using a price incentive for multiple tickets can often increase your total sales and builds a larger 'pot' to split with the lucky winner. In a 50-50 raffle fundraising, your group gets to keep exactly 50% of all the money raised. At a large function, with a sizeable pool of money expected, multiple prizes of perhaps \$100 or more could be awarded.

### 2) **Penny Wars** ■■■

Pit school year against school year (Freshmen-Seniors versus Sophomores-Juniors) in a penny wars race! Each penny is +1, while all silver change or dollars are - the value (ex: a dollar is -100). The one with the smallest points wins (less negative numbers) This would be great to do at an event or even if you ask other clubs having big events if they would announce it at their event and provide the cause or organization the money will go to and also have bins and labels ready.

### 3) **Candy gram fundraiser**

Holding a candy gram fundraiser is one way you can get everyone to spread special messages to friends and loved ones while your organization rakes in the earnings. Candy grams also tend to be fairly inexpensive to create, so you save money when putting them together and maximize your return. Schedule your candy gram fundraiser close to a major holiday, like Halloween, Christmas or Valentine's Day, you can also choose to send roses for valentine's day or personalized Halloween cookies or whatever else you can think of to be creative and original! You can buy card stock and create small cards to attach with ribbon to the candy gram. You can get creative with these little cards; for example, cut them into shapes like hearts for Valentine's day, snowmen for Christmas or jack-o'-lanterns for Halloween. You can also buy the small cards that are pre-made in bulk and have a blank space for the buyers to personalize them. Make sure you advertise two weeks in advance giving people ample time to see your flyers and daily announcements from your school. Also try to table more than once and give out a number or email that people can call if they can't make it to the tabling so they can give you the money and personalize the gram. Offer to take the grams to someone anywhere on campus at a specific time or range of time on that date.

### 4) **Job cards**

Each volunteer writes on a 3"x5" card what they would be willing to do for fundraising for pay (i.e. painting, car washing, cleaning, yard work, babysitting). These cards can be placed on a table during a Kiwanis meeting :) It's probably better to let the "purchaser" make a freewill donation.

### 5) **Worst Snapchat stories**

Yes you heard right. How many snapchats do you get a day? How many stories do you have to click through? How many have you screencaptured because they were just absolutely ridiculous? Yup... I'm sure you have. You can charge everyone who either submits or just wants to come and watch the worst snapchat slide. You can have refreshments available and after people can talk and get to know each other better. You should announce when you are having this event at least a week ahead of time to give people a chance to submit their snapchats so you can make the slide. Obviously there will be people who will already have them ready.

### 6) **Deposit Bottle Collection**

Everyone see the collection places for cans and bottles everywhere. How great and easy would it be if you got volunteers to dedicate just one day to collect bottles and cans on campus at different resident halls. Create a simple personalized flyer offering details about your group and the causes you're collecting for on this occasion. Set a collection day and spread the word: get residents to leave their returnable bottles and cans on the front porch by 9am. Your flyers should be distributed house-to-house around the local area but not placed in mailboxes (as this violates federal law).

It's wise to give people a few days' notice to collect their bottles and cans but don't leave it too long or they'll forget. It's an easy way to raise some cash, as you're saving residents the trouble of returning the bottles themselves. It's a good idea to print out thank you notes to be left at the rooms or buildings of anyone who gets involved. You might want to mention the reasons for your collection again so that people know what the money is going towards. On the day itself you definitely want to have a car to be able to drive to the area, or if it's close by just have a lot of volunteers carry them together.

### 7) ***Gas Station Attendant***

Ask a local gas station to let you pump customers gas and wash their windshields. You can either ask for an unspecified fundraising donation or a set amount (you will do better without a set amount). Since most stations are now self-service you will be offering the customers a welcome option. It's a win-win situation. It doesn't cost the station a cent and their customers get premium service. You might get a few cheapskates but most customers will be very sympathetic especially when they know about the cause your doing it for! You have no upfront cost. The gas stations already have the windshield cleaner, squeegees and paper towels, but always make sure that you don't need to buy any extra cleaning supplies. You just provide warm bodies and elbow grease.

### 8) ***Squeegee Day***

You can ask people at a local drive thru to donate money to have their windshields washed. Have one person at the beginning of the drive thru asking the person if they would like their windshield washed as a donation to the cause your raising money for. If they say yes, have a volunteer place a pamphlet under their windshield wiper. Once the car gets to the front of the drive thru and they have a pamphlet under their wiper, your team of two washes their windshield and thanks them for their donation. You can try to get all the squeegees donated as well as the windshield washer fluid. You can try different locations at rush time and see where you get the most donations and stick with that later on. There's very little setup (your pail and pamphlets) and it takes a very small amount of people to pull it off. You will generally have 5 people at each drive thru. One person to ask for the donations and two teams of two so you don't slow the drive thru lane down if you get multiple cars in a row.

### 9) ***Gift Wrapping***

Get in touch with a store or mall in your area and ask about setting up a gift-wrapping fundraising booth for their customers for Valentine's Day, Mother's Day, Father's Day and/or Christmas. Just like regular gift-wrapping stations, you can charge different amounts for different levels of wrapping. You will need to invest in boxes, tape, wrapping paper, and bows. You can either accept donations, or charge a fee per gift (depending on size, etc.). Usually the store will let you make announcements advertising your booth over their intercom while you are there gift-wrapping. Make sure you have enough people on hand to staff the booth during times advertised. Remember that your "Wrap Staff" are representing your group and cooperating merchant and should act and dress

appropriately. Also don't tape directly on the box you are wrapping. Some boxes contain collector's items that lose their value if you disfigure the outside packaging.

### 10) **Restaurant Takeover** ■ ■ ■

You can contact a local restaurant and volunteer to serve as dishwashers, bus persons, and buffet servers. You can negotiate an amount the restaurant owner would donate for the volunteer services for a given amount of time and for a number of days. Every restaurant will be different and have different preferences for example some restaurants will only want you to serve breakfast, some will even be ok with you making the food, so be sure to keep their options open and be ok with doing a variety of different things. In exchange for being allowed to work in the restaurant your club can bring more people in the range of time you will be volunteering. You could also ask if you can inform the general public about the organization you are donating money to and ask if you could set up a donation box by the cash register for additional contributions.

### 11) **Eat for CK!** ■ ■ ■

Ask a local restaurant to donate 10% (or whatever they agree to) of their profits on a designated night for your club in exchange for encouraging supporters to eat there. You can ask around before you go to certain restaurants, because obviously some restaurants in your area will have more people coming to eat there more than others. Create a huge buzz and advertise the restaurant a lot, especially the week before your set date. Another thing is some require the patrons to have a coupon with them present otherwise they don't donate a percentage of their check. Some restaurants also don't allow volunteers to flyer outside of their restaurant. So be sure to talk about all these points when you are making the agreement since a misunderstanding can easily happen otherwise.

### 12) **Clean-up Fundraiser** ■ ■ ■

Clean up after Independence Day fire works displays, dog shows, concerts, parties etc. Often the organizers of these events will pay an amount of money to another organization for their volunteers to do the cleanup. Just look up events coming up in a directory and explain what you are trying to raise money for, and ask to offer your services in return.

### 13) **Bagger for a day** ■ ■ ■

Grocery stores are often busy places where shoppers have to do their own bagging. This simple and undemanding fundraising idea lets you raise some money while providing a service that many in your community will find helpful. First of all, locate a busy grocery store that is happy to help your cause and get advice on the best day of the week to come in. Distribute some self-made flyers explaining what your group is about and why you are in the store — you can hand these out to people as they enter the store. Make sure your "baggers" get a short lesson on the best techniques (heavier items on the bottom and items such as eggs and bread at the top for example), and make sure a tip jar is available at each of the registers. It's also a good idea for each bagger to have a

nametag that also displays your group's name. Baggers should make sure they bag each shopper's groceries quickly and with a positive attitude — you could also offer to push carts and help with unloading shopping into the car too. If you have young baggers helping you out, make sure they are supervised for safety reasons when helping folks to their cars.



# Large Event Fundraisers

These fundraisers are not big just because of the event space but for the planning that is required for them to be successful. So make sure you have at least a month to plan and organize these fundraisers.

## 14) **Prom Night** ■ ■

Organize a “Second Chance Prom” night where everyone can get dressed up and go out, the way they wish they had in high school! You can decorate the event area based on a theme or even a color that coordinates with the cause the money will go to. You can have superlative contests like best dancer, best-dressed, best couple, etc. you can even have a background for a photo booth and send people their pictures to their emails or have a Polaroid camera on hand.

## 15) **Auction** ■ ■

A fundraising auction can be combined with any event, or held on its own. Supporters donate their time, talent or treasures, which are auctioned off to the highest bidder. Examples of time or talent include: x hours of yard work, doing laundry, a romantic dinner with someone being auctioned off, etc. Treasures can be handmade, crafts, decorative items, meals, baked goods, trips, concert or sports tickets, golf green fees, etc. The key to a successful live fundraising auction is to have a good auctioneer, a member you think has a great stage presence, and a great sense of humor. A good auctioneer can generate bids for even the most unlovable object, and foster bidding wars for the popular items. It is important to let the auctioneer know the number and character of the items to be auctioned so ample time is allowed for the big-ticket items, and everything is auctioned within the allotted time span. Helpers are needed to register bidders and assign bid numbers at the start of the event. Card fans or large index cards can be used as bid numbers. Just be sure the numbers will be clearly legible to the auctioneer or helper. Each bidder should be given their bid number and a listing of all items to be auctioned. Additional helpers are needed during the auction to record the winning bid number and amount on the master list of items, and to collect the bid amounts and distribute the items at the end.

## 16) **Blind Auction** ■ ■

A blind auction is mostly about fun but can also raise funds for your group. It works best with dinner or a meeting. Here’s how it works! Get as many people as you can that will be attending the event to bring a wrapped package. The contents could be humorous or something of actual value. Think of the possibilities! You can get rid of something in the back of your closet or something you want to share with someone else for a worthy cause.

Donors can weight the boxes with a brick to disguise the contents, have an oversize box

for a very small present, or wrap boxes within boxes to increase anticipation. You get the idea! Announce that at least one of the boxes contains a '\$x' bill or something of value that is small enough to fit in all the boxes. The dollar value will depend on your group and anticipated bidding amounts. As guests arrive they place their boxes on a display table so potential bidders can examine them and speculate on what they contain. Make sure everyone has time to pick them up and shake them before the bidding. Guessing the contents is most of the fun! Give everyone an amount of time to go around and check out the boxes (Make sure you make it clear that anyone who brings boxes isn't aloud to tell anybody about what is inside). Then after auction each item individually and when the winning bidder gets it if they want they can open the box and show the audience what they got! Think of how funny it would be to pay \$10 for a used sock :)

### 17) ***Dinner Auction*** ■ ■

You can ask for volunteers to make a single dinner, or dessert or appetizer. Supply the take out containers to package them into and have everyone bring their dinners on that particular night. Arrange all dinners on a table so the people can see what they are bidding on. Our "auctioneer" then starts the bidding. Most dinners can start at a certain price each, but you would be amazed at how much a particular dinner could go for!

### 18) ***Butler Auction*** ■ ■

This fundraiser is likely to be hugely popular with the underclassmen in your club. Let the seniors's auction themselves off to play the role of a butler for a day. The responsibilities of your butlers would be to greet their "employers" as they arrive at school, carry books around, fetch lunch, and take on any other tasks that you feel are appropriate. You'll need to find a group of volunteers willing to do this, and you can then auction them off to the highest bidder.

It's important to set the rules of what a butler should and shouldn't do before the auction (no test taking, for example, pretty much nothing that would be considered illegal. You should also set out the hours that butlers will be expected to work. It's up to the employers to decide if they will be imposing a dress code or not (silly hats or t-shirts can be used as well as more formal garb). As all of the students would still be expected to attend class, butler duties will have to be suspended for these periods. You might want to round off the event with a special pizza dinner the same evening for butlers and employers alike to thank them for getting involved and raising funds.

### 19) ***Scavenger Hunt*** ■ ■

Do you remember how much fun treasure hunts were when you were kids?! Well trust me it is just as fun when you are in college! You can set up a scavenger hunt by signing teams of a certain number of people up. You can charge each person an entry fee. Every team that signs up gets a list of scavenger hunt items, a pencil to cross it off with and candy or a snack to stay energized! You can have a first, second and third place prize or just one prize for the team with the most points. You can calculate points by assigning

a certain number of points to each item brought back or picture taken. To make it fair the time to complete the scavenger hunt should be pre-set for example an hour or 30 minutes to finish the whole list. Once the team signs up their time starts and you give them the time they have to come back to the check in desk by. Make sure to make it clear that for every 5 minutes they are late a point will be deducted from their final score. Since not everyone will start at the same time when the first group is finished you have to have something for them to do until the rest of the teams come back and you can announce the winning team! You can have refreshments available, activities like photo booth, face painting, henna etc.

## 20) ***Dance-a-thon*** ■ ■ ■

This is a great fundraiser for any cause because it is very versatile. You play music and see which person on the dance floor lasts the longest. It is good to sell tickets beforehand, charge each person a set fee to participate while advertising the prize. You can also email dance groups on your campus and ask them if they could perform for short period of time and teach the audience different dance moves!

## 21) ***Fashion Show*** ■ ■ ■

Organize a fashion show of clothes donated from a local store. The audience can then later bid on the items. Usually thrift shops or department stores will do this to help out with whatever cause you are donating the money to. This won't cost much because you can just have refreshments and whatever clothes weren't bid on or bought will just go back to the store. A very popular alternative is a duct tape fashion show. Charge a registration fee. One member will receive a plastic bag to wear and assorted duct tape to use according to the guidelines to make something to do the cat walk with. The members will walk in a fashion show and be judged based upon creativity, originality, overall appearance, and how stable or fit the clothes turn out to be!

## 22) ***Potluck Dinners*** ■ ■ ■ ■

Potluck dinners allow member to bring different dishes! This requires a little organizing, and planning because you need enough dishes that are versatile. You can ask family to help out, officers, and members, even Kiwanis! Charge a fee for people to eat at the potluck, and you've got yourself a fundraiser! This can go great with an awareness event, because while everyone is sitting down to eat you have a little time to talk about your organization and where the money is being donated to.

## 23) ***Speed Dating*** ■ ■

Give students a chance to participate in raising money for a good cause and play matchmaker! Charge an admission/registration fee. Just advertise for a long time before it to get the word out. Get a couple people that people would like to see or would find odd to see at a speed-dating event and convince them to come!!! You can register guys first and advertise them to the girls or vice versa. Have tables ready and a w whistle that



you can blow every two minutes or so, so people can switch to the next person. You can also have refreshments available, note cards to start a conversation on each table. It's very inexpensive but can definitely rack up a bunch of money if executed correctly.

#### **24) *Trivia/Family Feud Night*** ■ ■

Charge an entry fee for individuals or a set number of people in a team to participate in a family feud or trivia night. This may sound boring but if you make it extremely funny and original I promise it won't be! The questions will be under genres, and you can choose outrageous and funny genres like Miley Cyrus, collard greens, Barney, etc. whatever you can think of that you think other people will get a kick out of. This will be a challenge to many people and even when teams or individuals aren't playing they will be laughing at all the answers. Additionally it'll be even funnier to have a funny person ask the questions someone who can make a situation even funnier. This can even be done at any one of the circle-k meetings too. It can be used as an icebreaker but you also make some money. Have a prize for the winner or winning team, like a gift card

#### **25) *Arrest a fan***

You can sell tickets for \$5 before a game or large campus event. The tickets are papers printed out with the student's name that was purchasing and the student's name ■ ■ ■ ■ that the purchaser wished to have arrested. During the game you can have a volunteer police officer in uniform with the help of students randomly arrest the students during the game. You can ask a police officer that is already on campus or even better just buy a police officer uniform and have someone wear it to arrest people. You can set up a section at the event where the arrested students have to sit for 10 minutes. The students that are arrested could pay \$3.00 to find out who had them arrested and an additional \$2.00 to have that person arrested. If you don't have a lot of games you can run the fundraiser differently. For example: A student is "arrested" and brought to jail. Before they are arrested, the student would have to fill out a form (for example Google form/survey) so the officer knows when and where to arrest the student. In the form, the student would also set a bail price. The student needs to reach out to people they know so they can come and bail the student out. If friends pay off the bail amount, the student can leave. If no one comes after a set period of time, then the student would be encouraged to pay his bail amount. This will also have to take into consideration class times and other important obligations.

#### **26) *Charity Art Show***

Who doesn't love art? Or at least just appreciating the beauty of it. This takes a lot of planning because you need to go to the art professors, students and advertise for ■ ■ ■ pieces of art. They can be donated and bought or just used for display. The event itself is fairly simple. Find a place that is roomy enough so people can walk around and look at the art, and talk to their friends about it. Have an area for refreshments. You can make money by charging an entry fee to everyone who comes in.

# Small Event Fundraisers

Again this is not about the space that you need but about the amount of planning that will go into these fundraisers. These fundraisers are simple to understand, you have probably heard of the concept before and it wouldn't take too much time to implement what is needed.

## 27) *Tie Die Event*

Sell t-shirts, bags, or whatever else you can tie-dye and organize a tie-dye event on campus! Not only will you be able to advertise CKI with some fantastic t-shirts, but also you'll have tons of fun tie-dying various pieces of clothing. You can buy the items in bulk and make a profit! This can also be great if you wanted to do it for a certain cause that had specific colors so you can use them.

## 28) *Paint your panties/boxers*

Buy some fabric markers or fabric paint and sell panties and boxers! Encourage people to decorate their blank panties and boxers with your paint! Let your creativity go loose! If you buy them in bulk you can charge a little more so you can make a profit.

## 29) *Balloon Bust*

Create a wall of balloons, each with some little papers in them. Sell tickets to pop these balloons! While some balloons will have "try again" tickets, some others might have prizes inside or even a cash prize. This can be a great activity to have in addition to a cause or awareness event or event if it's just a surprise at one of your service projects or to keep a weekly cmi meeting fun.

## 30) *Movie Night*

Many organizations rent a movie and hold movie night fundraising events. This works especially well if you have a large room and projection/large screen TV. Make money by charging a single price for the movie and refreshments; provide the movie free but sell refreshments; or charge nothing and just ask for donations. Make sure you select a movie that will be of special interest to your group. Allow plenty of time for socialization before and after the movie. Some groups have held all-nighters where movie-goers bring their sleeping bags and blankets and have a movie marathon. Try to find a movie that is very new or just came out on DVD!

## 31) *Bake off Bake Sale*

Holding a bake off bake sale lets you tap into your college's love of sweet treats while encouraging some competitiveness amongst students on campus and your members at the same time. The parameters of the bake off are up to you. You might want to restrict the event to just cookies, or just cakes, or even have ingredients that they must use (like in iron chef!). By charging a small fee to enter the contest, you can be raising

funds right from the beginning. You'll need a suitable venue where everyone can gather comfortably and where there's room for all the baked goods to be viewed and judged. You should try to get professors to judge or an advisor or Kiwanis! You should provide a small prize for the winner and then sell of all of the baked goods you've collected! You have the option of charging per item or asking for donations with each purchase.

People might want water or a drink to wash down the baked goods, so having these for sale as well will raise more money. For an extra touch, why not ask the bakers to include a list of ingredients and recipe instructions along with the items they produce. This will help with allergy info but also if anyone wanted to go back home and make it they could! One last thing that would also be a good idea and install the audiences perception of being on a TV show, is to tell them what the baked goods are being judged on (appearance, originality, taste, etc.)

### 32) ***Sticky Fly*** ■ ■ ■ ■

Have people pay for pieces of duct tape to tape an officer in your club to a wall. This can be great in another event as one of the activities. Try to get the person that everyone in your club would most not expect to agree to something like this. Persuade them to take one for the team!

### 33) ***Minute to Win It*** ■ ■ ■

What kinds of crazy things can be done in 60 seconds? A "Minute to Win It" fundraiser is inspired by the game show, where contestants are given 60 seconds in which to complete a game or challenge using everyday objects. They are quick games that people can play pretty easily, and not take a whole day. How you make money varies with your group, most likely supporters, and participants but others have used a combination of the following: team entrance fees, sponsorships, spectator admission, and concession sales. The supplies needed are going to be very inexpensive. You can easily find a list of challenges on their website and figure out how to do it.

### 34) ***Adult Spelling Bee Fundraiser*** ■ ■

I'm a horrible speller, but for college students this can be a great way to finally settle a "who's better at English" argument, or just to show off. Teams can be any number of students you say you need for example 3 people per team or have each person compete on their own. You can charge members an entry fee, and/or have a sponsor pay the fee and advertise them. You can use words from a spelling word websites.

### 35) ***Board Game Tournament*** ■ ■ ■

This can be held as an individual or team competition. Suggested games include Scrabble, Cranium, Catch Phrase, Taboo, Battleship, Connect Four, Twister, Uno, etc. Entrants pay \$10, and the top 2 or 3 win a prize. You can even make it a regular tournament and hold a new board game competition each month. You can have refreshments or food available. It would also be good to have either a judge for each table or a couple of them

roaming around.

**36) *Eating Contest*** 

Who doesn't like being challenged and eating free food?! You can have a hot dog eating contest or a pancake eating contest or marshmallows or cookies, the sky is the limit! Charge each person an entry fee and advertise the winning prize. Make sure you flyer well in advance and also charge the audience a fee because in the end it's all going to a great cause!

**37) *Charades*** 

Everybody is familiar with the parlor game "Charades", but did you ever consider making it a fundraising event? You can invite teams of a certain number, and charge a fee per team or per person. Each team is given 10 minutes to guess as many answers as they could. Categories can include movies, books and songs. The 1st, 2nd & 3rd place teams can be given prizes donated by local business, such as a pizza party at a local Italian restaurant or discounted or free movie tickets or just other prizes easily shared among people. It's an easy fundraiser to organize, no special equipment is required, and everyone has a great time for a good cause. It can be perfect to implement in a meeting in your club, or part of an event!

**38) *Easter Egg Surprise*** 

Get a large box, and fill it with colorful Easter grass. Get a bunch of plastic colorful Easter Eggs and fill most of them with a little change, slips of paper that say "Sorry try again." or "Happy Easter!" or some pieces of candy. In one or two of them, put a grand prize such as a \$20 bill, a gift certificate, or some other prize. Charge one dollar to reach in the big box and take out one egg. The person gets to keep the prize inside! This can be done in addition to your bake sale or just alone along with raising awareness for a cause :)

**39) *Playing Cards Marathon*** 

For this fundraising idea, your members play the card game "hearts" or any other card game that can be played continually for any long amount of consecutive hours for example 5. You solicit pledges per point accrued for each player. Players can call businesses and get sponsors as well. For example, someone signs up to pledge one penny per point and if the student earns 2,000 points during the allotted time, the total pledge is \$20.

**40) *Snowman Poop*** 

At Christmas you can go in front of a Wal-Mart or other local stores selling small bags of marshmallows for \$1.50 with a small note attached to it that says, "You've been naughty, so here's the scoop. All you get for Christmas is snowman poop." You can even decorate it on the outside with nerds or whatever else you find creative. You can also sell this along baked goods at your school too.

#### 41) **Toilet Seat Toss** ■ ■

The rules and scoring for the toilet seat toss are the same as horseshoes. Instead of using actual metal horse shoes and metal stakes, use two plungers as the stakes and two toilet seats as the shoes. Stick the plungers on the ground 20 feet apart (a flat smooth surface is usually best like a gym floor) the handles will stick up in the air. Then toss the toilet seats and try to ring them around the plunger opposite your team. Have a few extra seats around in case they break (the padded ones are more durable). It can be used at a western themed event. You can play instrumental western music in the background. Supplies needed: 2 plungers & 2 toilet seats - one set (2 plungers, 2 seats) for every 2 teams.

# Fundraising for Items

**These fundraisers don't involve asking for donations (although if someone wishes to donate they are more than welcome to do so) you are collecting items that might not be that valuable to the people who are donating them but to the organizations you will be sending them to they are essential.**

## **42) *Treasure Hunt***



To raise actual items for a local shelter several volunteers can canvas nearby neighborhoods on a "Treasure Hunt". You can accept food, toiletries, clothing, monetary donations, etc. You can even have a contest between their groups to see who could obtain the most "stuff". People will be more willing to give items than money to strangers at their doors, especially when they know they will be helping a good cause without having to make that much effort. It might be smart to go to the shelter first and get a list of items that they need so you can tell the people who open their doors what you are looking for.

## **43) *Trick or Canning***



When you think of trick or treating you think of candy, but this fundraiser puts a great twist on it! Take a couple of members to go door to door for as many blocks as you can :) You go door to door asking people for any cans they would like to donate to any center in your community for example CHOW. Make sure you know where you will be donating the cans just in case the people ask. It also might be a good idea to have a driver to put all the cans in the trunk of the car, and to drive to the community or town you will be asking for donations from if it is far away from your university.

# No Event Space Needed Fundraisers

**These fundraisers are very cause oriented, require little to no effort, and most importantly no space. That doesn't mean their significance is less important or you will raise less money. It just means these fundraisers have to do more with communication, use of social media, how they are advertised and whom you choose to reach out to.**

## **44) *Piece of the Puzzle*** ■■

You can ask students to “purchase” a puzzle piece for a set amount (\$1, \$5, etc.) for the cause you are donating to and write their name and/or message on the back. Depending on how much money you hope to raise, pick a puzzle with a realistic number of pieces and set the per-piece price appropriately. Puzzles with larger pieces are easier to fit names and messages on, but usually have fewer pieces in total. Be careful that the puzzle you choose has a reverse side that is easy to write on. You will need a VERY FINE TIP Sharpie-type marker or pen that is able to write the messages on the back with, you can choose to use all one color, like black or have a variety of colored inks for your donors to choose from. The person paying for the piece can choose the puzzle piece they want. Once all the pieces are sold, the puzzle is assembled and framed between 2 pieces of glass so that both the puzzle picture and the names of all the donors can be viewed. You can hot glue the edges together and put frame pieces around it. This becomes a great keepsake for your club to keep for generations to come. You can take a picture of it and tag everyone who donated to the cause so they can see the finished work!

## **45) *Make Believe Tea Party*** ■

This is an idea that was used by the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. No finger sandwiches, crumpets or fine china necessary! All you need are tea bags, invitations, envelopes and stamps. The concept is to send an invitation for a “Make-Believe Tea Party” to your friends, neighbor’s co-workers, etc. Send a tea bag (inexpensive per tea bag if you buy them in bulk - or you can try to get the tea bags donated) in an envelope along with a classy, yet catchy, invitation explaining that they are invited to a “make-believe tea party” on a certain day for example mother’s day at a certain time.

Explain that on that date and time, you will all enjoy a cup of tea (using the tea bag provided) in support of your cause (or in memory/honor of someone). Remind them that they can take part in this tea party while still enjoying the comforts of their own home! Tell each “guest” that they are encouraged to make a donation in return for “attending” this tea party. The tea bag is theirs to keep whether they make a donation or not, but hopefully they are understanding and sympathetic with your cause. You can either ask

for a donation of a specified amount as the “cost” for “attending” this tea party, or leave the donation amount open-ended and up to the individual. Be sure to send a “thank-you” to those who make a donation.

**46) *Bakeless Bake Sale Fundraiser*** ■ ■

Send this letter to your members: You are invited to NOT bake a cake, pie, cookies, or brownies. You do NOT have to find the recipe. You do NOT have to shop for the ingredients. You do NOT have to mix. You do NOT have to cook. You do NOT have to cut. You do NOT have to wrap. You do NOT have to wash dishes. You do NOT have to clean up your kitchen. You do NOT have to deliver the baked product. You do NOT have to stand in the heat/cold/rain to sell the baked product. You can write a check for \$10.00 to “name of organization” and stay home and enjoy doing something yourself or with your family! You can obviously switch it up, for example you can choose an organization before hand that all the money will be donated to.

The Bakeless Bake Sale Fundraising Poem

Many is the time I heard you say  
I would rather give a “Dollar” than bake today  
And so, we are asking you to help more or less  
To make our Bakeless Bake Sale a big success.

Just send us the money that it would take  
To Bake a loaf of bread or a beautiful cake  
Or send in the amount of money it takes to buy  
A dozen rolls or maybe a pie  
We know you can help us if you will but try.

I am buying or baking the items marked below.

Items for Sale Items you Bake/Donate

- Cupcakes: 2 for a dollar
- 3 doz. cupcakes: \$4.00
- Chocolate cookies: 6 for \$1.00
- 3 doz. chocolate cookies: \$6.00
- Brownies 12 for \$3.00
- 3 doz. brownies: \$8.00
- Dutch Apple Pie \$5.00
- 3 Home made pies: \$10.00
- Strawberry Cheesecake \$7.00
- 2 strawberry cheesecakes: \$15.00



#### 47) ***Text in Dollars*** ■■

Have people text to donate a small amount, which will simply be added onto their phone bill. Promote the campaign by word of mouth and social media. For example, the Red Cross uses this kind of campaign very successfully. Online Fundraising Bootcamp for Nonprofits is a specialized course that will fine-tune the tech and social media marketing skills for your event, to enable you achieve tremendous success. This is easy for college students who don't usually pay their cell phone bills.

#### 48) ***"I Dare You" Fundraiser*** ■■

Would you take a shower in a public fountain? What if your friends would donate \$50 each if you did it? And then you agreed to post a video of the whole thing online? People can challenge other people to do wildly crazy things, for a price that the dare acceptor agrees to. The dare acceptor can advertise that they are doing it for a special cause and that any additional donations are appreciated. They can then record their antics and post them online. What's in it for the dare accepters? The dare is a fundraiser for charity. It's a platform for combining social good and hilarious. Friends challenge each other for donations to a charity and videos of the stunts are uploaded to the charity's website or other forum created for the event. We've all seen how crazy the ice bucket challenge has gotten and how much money it has raised and personalizing these dares makes it even better! Then the challenge acceptor will for sure want to get revenge on his challenger. The best thing about this fundraiser is you don't need a space or event you can have it for a set period of time. And even friends who are far away from you can challenge you because they can see you perform the dare once you upload or send it.

#### 49) ***Give it Up Campaign*** ■■

Do you know someone who can't go a day without coffee? Someone who can't go a week without shopping? Someone who can't go a month without using social media? Well this is an exciting fundraiser. Tell your club that each person can challenge another person to give up or sacrifice a certain thing they know this person can't live without and agrees to donate a set amount of money for every day they give it up. For example I would challenge my friend to give up coffee and for everyday she goes without it I would donate one dollar. More people will make challenges and it will be a great thing to do for a great cause. Now make sure you tell everyone they have to be honest. You can use social media to advertise this, and get more people even ones who aren't in your club to participate as well. This requires absolutely no money for setup and everyone will just be donating. Also it would be smart to have someone vein charge of keeping count of how much money people have to donate.

#### 49) ***Skip a Meal*** ■

The idea of this fundraiser is to have people donate the money that they would spend on a meal in a day to an organization of your choosing. It's definitely great if the donations would go to a homeless center or food pantry or something that resonates with people that experience hunger frequently. The price of the meal skipped along with the price of the food that was not produced because of the reduction in students eating at the dining halls. The dining halls waited to cook the meal until a little before the students who are not participating arrived so there was not a lot of over-production. Skip a Meal fund-raisers have gained in popularity over the past several years and many universities raise thousands of dollars every year for various causes through this method.



### **New York District of Circle K International 2015-2016 Resources**

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