

# Fund Raising Ideas

## On-Site Activities

### **Bake Sale**

Conduct a bake sale/contest incorporating the tastiest recipes of your employees and clients. Individually wrap and price the baked goods. Pricing should be consistent (four cookies for \$1 or two brownies for \$1). If you choose to have a baking contest, then you need to design an entry form and determine a fee for participation. Select categories: most extravagant, the most chocolate, ugliest, prettiest, most creative, healthiest, etc.

### **Car Wash**

Select a location and time that will offer significant public exposure. To enhance interest, invite mascots from the local high school, popular DJs or other identifiable community figures to participate. Be prepared with an alternative plan in case of inclement weather.

### **Coin Canisters**

Obtain coin canisters from your local hospital. Place them on your counters and ask clients for donations to benefit their Children's Miracle Network hospital.

### **Jail and Bail**

During their "time" jailbirds such as managers, staff or board members call on employees and family members to collect donations for their bail. Designate an afternoon, or gather a few employees and make their jail time an all-day affair.

### **Kisses for Kids**

While this fund raiser fits well with a Valentine's Day theme, it can be effective any time of the year. Buy Hershey's Kisses or Hugs candy and wrap a handful in colorful netting (available at craft and fabric stores). Tie the package with a ribbon and display them in the lobby or at the tellers' windows. Sell them for a few dollars.

### **I Won't Come Down**

Invite a manager or supervisor up on the roof of your office and refuse to come down until employee and/or clients have raised a specific amount for their Children's Miracle Network hospital. Funds could be raised through client donations on the spot or in a campaign prior to the event as well. The manager could also raise funds by hanging a bucket over the edge of the building with a sign stating his or her purpose. If you get the word out effectively, such an event can generate significant publicity for your business.



### **Dunk Tank**

Rent a dunk tank and give employees and clients a chance to dunk their favorite manager or co-worker for a donation. A dunk tank can also enhance outdoor events such as cookouts, carnivals, bake sales, etc.

### **Create a Cookbook**

Solicit both clients and employees for their favorite tasty recipes. Model the book after other cookbooks and include sections highlighting hors d'oeuvres, entrees, desserts, etc. Sell the cookbook to staff and clients with all proceeds benefiting their Children's Miracle Network hospital.

### **Trash & Treasure**

A yard sale is a great way to get rid of all that perfectly good stuff they just don't use anymore and help local kids at the same time. Advertise the sale in advance and have employees commit to take responsibility for any items they do not sell.

### **Raffles/Sweepstakes**

Conduct raffles or chance giveaways among employees, clients or other business affiliates. Solicit donations from vendors and local businesses to use as prizes. Remember that the less money you spend on prizes, the greater your overall donation can be.

## **Employee Activities**

### **Crazy Hat Contest**

Let employees design wild hats to wear on a specified day. For a set donation, each participant will be entered into prize categories. Winners can be determined by vote, by committee or by an elected manager.

### **Dress Down Day**

Select a day in which individual staff can wear jeans, T-shirts or other attire that differs from your usual dress code for a specified donation to Blair E. Batson Hospital for Children. Put up signs or banners to announce the event.

### **Shaved Head Challenge**

A manager challenges employees to raise a predetermined amount for Children's Miracle Network. If employees raise the funds in the allotted time, a male manager could promise to shave his head or a female manager could promise to cut or dye her hair. When the challenge is met, have employees nearby to help shave, dye or cut. Take lots of pictures!

### **Talent Show**

Let employees share their hidden talents! Choose a location, organize and agenda of acts and select a panel of judges. Charge and entrance fee for each act and separate fee for spectators.



## Holiday Events & Promotions

### **Breakfast and Photos with Santa/Easter Bunny**

Sponsor a seasonal community breakfast and photo session where children can spend time with Santa Claus, the Easter Bunny, etc. Charge either an entrance fee or dining/photo fee to cover expenses. Donate the proceeds to your Children's Miracle network hospital.

### **Christmas Tree Festival**

Ask community groups or other local businesses to donate decorated Christmas trees, wreaths and other holiday decorations to sell. Display the trees in a public hall on specified days and support the event with holiday music, food booths and other vendor items to create a festive boutique atmosphere.

### **Egg Hunt/Cake Walk**

Have local children enter an Easter egg hunt or cake walk during the Easter holiday season. Design a creative way to gather donations with the event.

### **Holiday Flower Sale**

A holiday flower sale is a great opportunity to team with a local florist to help hospitalized kids in your community. Sell poinsettias during the Christmas/Hanukah season, roses for Valentine's Day, spring bouquets for Mother's Day, etc. Provide a flower delivery service along with the promotion to create additional funds.

### **Holiday Gift Wrapping Drive**

Buy wrapping paper in bulk or contact distributor that specializes in gift-wrap sales for nonprofit groups. Involve staff wrapping gifts for a small fee donated to your Children's Miracle Network hospital.

## Helpful Fund Raising Hints

1. Establish a committee to plan and execute fund raising activities
2. Enlist support from senior management
3. Establish a budget and set goals
4. Select a fund raiser that best fits your business or group
5. Develop a fund raising calendar for the year (aim for 2-3 campaigns per year)
6. Design campaigns big enough to be exciting, yet small enough to be manageable
7. Set a challenging, yet attainable fund raising goal
8. Remember the three P's: Plan, Promote & Publicize