

# In-Office Fundraising Ideas!

Themes and special events can be a fun component of your workplace campaign. They can also help raise money, motivate people, increase awareness, reward teamwork and really set the stage for your campaign.

Need help brainstorming? Here are some ideas for Workplace Events that could help support your United Way HPE campaign!

## Dress Down/Casual Day

Charge \$2 or \$5 to wear jeans or wear red for United Way on certain days (usually Fridays). "I'm Dressed this way for United Way" stickers are available from United Way HPE.

## Barbecue

Advertise well in advance what you will be serving at the barbecue. Have your tickets on sale a week ahead of time so you will have an idea of how many steaks or hamburgers/hotdogs you'll need. You should be able to purchase your meat/buns at a reduced cost based on volume. Visit a wholesale distributor to negotiate a donation of supplies (plastic plates, utensils, etc.). If you are serving a large number of people, have at least 4 to 5 gas barbecues. Encourage senior management to cook. Provide chefs with United Way aprons.

## Win the CEO/President's Parking Spot

Raffle the use of their parking spot for a week!

## Change Challenge

Set up jars by department or team. Teams compete to fill their jar with coins (bonus: use bills as "sabotage" by subtracting points!)

## Balloon Pop

Employees donate prizes for this event, which is a variation of a traditional raffle. Before filling a balloon with helium, put a note inside with the name of a prize. Employees pay \$2 to buy a balloon and pop it to find out what prize they won.

## Chili Lunch Cook Off

Invite employees to bring in a batch of their best chili. Then have coworkers judge each chili based on taste, texture and fire value. Then offer dishes of chili for a price to all employees for lunch. The Cook Off Champ is the recipe that sells the most bowls. Give packs of Roloids or Tums to all employees at the end of the event.

## Breakfast-to-Go Table

Set up near the main entrance at shift change with muffins, breakfast sandwiches or coffee for a donation.



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Money raised from workplace fundraising events help those most vulnerable in our community and ensure they are able to access the best resources and live a life free of barriers and stigma.

## Popsicle/Freezie Break

On a hot day, sell cool treats during lunch or shift change

## Coffee Cart

Arrange for volunteers to bring a coffee and snack cart throughout the office one day. You should advertise in advance. Solicit donations of coffee and snacks from suppliers or ask co-workers to contribute baked goods. If you do have to purchase items, make sure you sell them at a profit. While selling coffee and snacks, distribute UWHPE campaign information

## Ticket Giveaway/Gift Certificates

Give free tickets to movies, theatre productions, amusement centres and other local attractions for pledge incentives. Give movie passes to every employee who meets the challenge of pledging a certain dollar amount. Enter the names of all employees who turn in a signed pledge form during the first hour following the kick-off into a special draw.

## A Dollar an Inch Contest

Executives participate in an all-day competition to end the day with the shortest tie. Employees cut an inch off their favourite executive's tie each time they give to the community. Give prizes for the shortest tie, the ugliest tie, etc.

## Desk/Office Decorating Contest

Employees pay a small fee to enter, offer a prize (A bonus day off? A gift card?), coworkers vote for their favourite display, or post photos and take votes on Social Media pages. Could be themed around Holidays, seasons and more!

## Guess-the-Number Bucket

Fill a clear container with nuts, bolts, candies, or something workplace-themed. \$1 per guess and the closest guess wins a prize!

## Dress Up / Theme Days

Similar to "Dress Down" initiatives where employees can opt-in to wear jeans to work, host Special Theme Days like "Hawaiian Shirt Day", or "Jersey Day", allow staff the chance to donate \$2 or \$5 to UWHPE and participate.



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