



Fundraising Ideas

Although the most successful fundraisers are sending emails/letters, Facebook Fundraisers and matching money, here are some other ideas that our volunteers have found successful!

- 1) Garage Sale:** Collect items from friends and neighbors and sell at a big garage sale. Team members have raised \$1200+ this way.
- 2) Bake Sale:** One family loved to bake so they took orders for special events and delivered the evening before. For example, on Easter they took orders for cakes and hot cross buns. On Mother's Day they took orders for Cinnamon rolls. Father's Day, a dessert. They raised thousands of dollars doing this.
- 3) Silent Auction:** Can be combined with another event or you could do a dinner (anything from informal BBQ in someone's backyard to black tie event). If you want to do something big with this, ask Tanner for more information. If done right these can raise up to \$10,000 or more.
- 4) Movie Night:** 3 of our volunteers got together and held a family movie night at a local elementary school. They sold treats, charged a small ticket price to get in and showed a movie. They combined this with a silent auction. One popular item at their auction was 2 plane tickets from a neighbor who worked for an airline and some art work by a local artist. So, it pays to work your connections. They raised over \$3000.
- 5) Kids Camp:** During spring break one of our volunteers ran a kid's camp from her home for 3 days. She charged per child and had them bring their own sack lunch while she provided all the activities. She raised \$1200 this way.
- 6) Sending a letter:** Attached is a form letter you can personalize and send out. Or just sending your own heartfelt email. We've had people raise between \$300-\$2000 just with the letter alone. If you follow up once with emails or phone calls, you can get about 40% more. If you follow up twice with emails or phone calls, you can get up to 80% participation.
- 7) Donations instead of gifts:** People have asked that instead of presents for Christmas, b-days, other days that people donate to MWB in their name instead. One volunteer did this recently. She put a message on her Facebook page saying that she was turning 40 the next day and that instead of gifts, lunches, flowers, she would love to buy at least one bicycle for the children at our orphanage who travel 6 miles to attend high school each day. Each bicycle costs \$200. She wound up raising enough money to buy ALL 6 needed bikes plus had money to sponsor a child in school for a year.
- 8) "Change for Change" Jars:** People have made "Spare change for Change" jars and put them at local businesses or at their workplaces. They've collected \$100-\$1000 that way.
- 9) Partnering with businesses:** Some people have worked with their place of business or a local business to do a fundraiser like Chik-FilA, local restaurants, events at their business. One lady worked for a gym and they sponsored an event. They sold T-shirts and a portion of the proceeds went towards her expedition. Each of these events raised a few hundred dollars.

10) Fun Runs: Great way to raise money and awareness. Sky's the limit on these.

11) Matching Funds: Some people work for companies (or their spouse, sibling, parent, friend does) that offering corporate matching on donations to 501(c)3 charities like MWB. You donate a dollar and they match it by donating a dollar and sometimes more! People have gotten half or more of their trip paid for this way. We even know a girl who wrote to a large local business, explained what she wanted to do, why she was going etc. asking for a donation and they actually paid for her entire trip. Small businesses are overburdened with requests, but large companies usually have a certain amount of money set aside for charitable giving. Definitely worth a try!

12) Sporting Events: You can partner with a local high school sports team to raise funds at an upcoming game/event.

13) Daddy/Daughter Dance: Put on an event for Dad's and their girls to dress up and have fun! Provide simple treats, a photo area and some great music and games. Some local high schools do this, and they raise thousands of dollars.

14) Hot Dog Sale: (Feed people) Find a busy place and set up your stand. Ask for donations of large quantities of hot dogs, buns, and condiments from local grocery stores or restaurants, or you can buy these yourself from wholesalers like Costco. Advertise your event well or set up in a space that gets a lot of foot traffic and begin selling dogs. Let people know what you're raising money for.

15) Family photos: Get a local photographer to donate their time and equipment and have your business, school, local church, host a family photo day. Everyone can come and pay a low fee to have their picture taken and then provide prints (which can be donated by a local Walgreens or other print shop) or provide the digital files for families to get their own prints.

16) Hold a Parent's Night Out (or sleepover?): Have teachers and parent volunteers chaperone as parents pay a fee to drop off their kids for a few hours or the whole night at the school's gym, cafeteria or other large room. Feed the kids dinner, play games or screen a movie.

17) Hold a Sports Tournament: Charge \$\$ per team that enters. Organize the tournament and have medals for the winners.

18) Hold a Trivia Night: Charge \$\$ per team that enters. Have a prize for the winners.

19) Other: We've had people sell items from their garden, offer to babysit for donations, or use their talents to raise money doing benefit concerts, selling their artwork/crafts/sewing, raising chickens, tutoring, baking birthday/specialty cakes etc.

20) Look online for more ideas. Here are some examples we found:

"Our 'Relay For Life' team has a birdhouse auction every year. We provide plain wooden birdhouses to local artists and craftspersons. They decorate, paint or change the birdhouses as they choose. Then we have a live auction at a local restaurant. We raise over \$6,000 every year."

"We just did a fundraiser at our local bowling place.

Sold 84 tickets for \$20 each which included 3 games and shoe rental.

Profit was \$16 per ticket

Banners to advertise at fundraiser were sold to local businesses for \$50 each

Profit was \$35 per banner.

Then we held two 50/50 raffles netted \$250

Local band donated their time!

Total profit was \$2200 even after giving away \$500 in cash prizes for 3 highest bowling scores!"