

118 Fundraising Ideas

Color Key:

Selling items **Hosting events** **Providing a service** **Performing tasks** + can also be an add-on fundraiser

*****Fundraising Ideas for Individuals*****

Level 1: So easy your Grandma could do it!

1. **Clean out your closet, or garage, or bookshelf...**

We all have used clothes and other items that we're ready to part with; reselling old stuff is simple and quick! Have a yard sale or sell your items online. Popular online buying and selling websites: Craigslist, Facebook Marketplace, Ebay, or Amazon. 💡 Pro tip: Ask for donations from your community to resale.

2. **Have a yard sale**

You can simply sell your stuff by setting up shop in front of your home, or you can join someone else's garage sale if you don't want to deal with the hassle of advertising by yourself. Joint garage sale bonus: people love BIG garage sales. The bigger the garage sale the more people will come. The more people there are, the greater chance of you selling all your stuff for a good price.

3. **Rent out equipment**

Rent out your stuff! If you own any tools, equipment, or other items that you don't want to part with, but don't get much use out of, you can rent them out on certain websites such as Craigslist and Kijiji. Commonly rented items include: tools; musical instruments; bikes, camping, and other outdoor gear; furniture; lawn equipment.

4. **Sell your photographs**

You can also take photographs of events in your city and sell them to local papers. Of course if you photograph something that is newsworthy, you can sell them to big news agencies like Reuters or big money depending on the importance of the event. Sites to Use: Big Stock Photo, Shutter Stock, Alamy, Fotolia, Veer

5. **Chain of Hearts Fundraiser**

For a certain amount of time, you can sell paper hearts (or any shape you'd like) to members of the community or your church. Supporters can write their name or a short message on the paper and tape them around your organization's lobby. Alternatively, your nonprofit can partner with a local retailer. Have them sell paper hearts to their patrons, allowing you to spread the word outside your current donor base. You've likely seen this technique used by nonprofits in your local grocery store. Whatever approach you decide to take, this easy fundraising idea is a simple way to raise money and awareness for your cause.

6. **Cash in vacation time**

Most jobs have an option of taking a bonus instead of taking your vacation time, consider working a few days of allotted vacation time with the intention of donating the bonus!

7. **Donate plasma**

Donating plasma is a quick and reliable way to make money! The process takes about two hours, most centers allow you to donate twice a week, and the pay is usually between \$30-\$60!

8. **See if your company does a matching gift**

Many businesses have corporate philanthropy programs and will match a donation to the non-profit of your choice. Utilize this database to see if your company has such a program or ask your boss! [Double the Donation's matching gifts database resource](#)

9. Survey apps

There are a lot of apps out there that offer money in exchange for things like testing websites, playing games, and taking surveys! Here are a list of easy to use apps:

- Watch videos, take surveys, play a game, shop and more for [InboxDollars](#)
- Answer questions based on shopping experiences for [Bestmark](#)
- Sell photos for [Foap](#)
- Test websites for [UserTesting](#)
- Take surveys for [Google Surveys](#)
- Take paid surveys anytime and anywhere via PC or Mobile App for [Lifepoints](#)
- Earn cash and gift cards for your opinions from [Opinion Outpost](#)
- Take surveys for [Ipsos iSay](#)
- Take surveys for [Pinecone Research](#)
- Watch videos, take surveys, shop and more for [Swagbucks](#)

10. Give-it-up challenge

Consider fasting from an unnecessary expense such as eating out, Starbucks, going to the movies, etc for a period of time, and then donating the money you would have spent on those activities! Invite friends and family to come alongside you during this period to provide each other with accountability and raise more money.

11. Get unclaimed government money

If you've never searched for money you're owed but you haven't yet claimed, then you could be missing out on some free, fast cash. Go to [Unclaimed.org](#) and look for your state to find your Department of Commerce. Then, you can fill out a few of your details and see if there's any missing money you've never claimed. You may only end up with \$10 from a bank account you forgot about, but you could also end up with hundreds or thousands from a trust fund you didn't know about. It's worth a shot to look, anyway!

Read more: [Learn How to Get Free Money from the Government: 16 Top Ways](#)

12. Peer-to-Peer Fundraising

Peer-to-peer fundraising empowers online supporters to help spread the word about your fundraising needs. Design your *peer-to-peer fundraising campaign page templates with custom branding, evocative imagery, and exciting gamification features. Then, reach out to your supporters to create personalized fundraising pages on behalf of your cause. Supporters can create pages for your cause to spread the word of the fundraiser to their network of online friends and followers. Encourage them to tell a personal story of why your organization is important to them on their fundraising page! **GSM's online giving platform (iDonate) offers this capability! Just let us know you'd like to use this giving option & we'll get you the details.*

13. Start a Crowdfunding Campaign

Crowdfunding is a great way of collecting a lot of small donations from a wide group of friends that culminates into a great gift! Facebook allows you to request donations to the charity of your choice, and you can check out this website to see what other crowdfunding websites you might like to use! [Fundly's 40 Best Crowdfunding Websites](#)

14. Email Campaign

The smallest to the largest nonprofits rely on email campaigns as one of the most effective fundraising and communication methods available. It's the most direct way to engage with individuals who have already expressed interest in supporting your cause. Email appeals are only effective when they direct readers to a specific place to donate, like your peer-to-peer campaign, crowdfunding campaign, or GSM's Greatest Needs Fund giving web page.

15. Compose Fundraising Letters

Sending fundraising appeals is a direct way to engage with individuals who have already expressed interest in supporting your cause, but they are only effective when they direct readers to a specific place to donate, like your peer-to-peer campaign, crowdfunding campaign or GSM's Greatest Needs Fund giving web page. Crafting the perfect fundraising letter is essential for effectively spreading the word about your cause. FundraisingLetters.org provides templates for fundraising letters.

16. Text-to-Give +

Text-to-give is a relatively new but effective way to accept donations. Nearly everyone has a smartphone, making text-to-give a natural fundraising technique. Sign up with a text-to-give *provider and then start promoting your text-to-give option to your supporters! Soon, donors will be using your text-to-give tool to give from wherever they are! You can even incorporate text-to-give into your next event or gathering and encourage all of your attendees to pull out their phones and make a donation right then and there.

**GSM's online giving platform (iDonate) offers this capability. Just let us know if you'd like to use this giving option & we'll get you the details!*

17. Online Browsing

Did you know that your supporters can raise money for your nonprofit simply by browsing and shopping online? Sites like Facebook and GoodSearch make it easy for people to set up an account, browse the internet like they normally would, and raise money for their favorite organizations. To start raising money from day-to-day online activities, let your donors know that these websites exist and educate them on how much of an impact these small gestures can make for your nonprofit. Don't forget about your staff! Encourage them to use these sites during and outside of work to help your nonprofit raise even more money. *Search Google to find other reliable sites to set up an account through.*

18. Pledge Challenges

Unique pledge campaigns are a great way to catch the attention of supporters. This fundraising idea involves you asking for pledges in exchange for a completing a specific challenge. A typical example would be an individual asking for pledges to be collected once they complete a challenging or long-distance cycling trip. Of course, long-distance cycling isn't for everyone, but the pledge format works well as a personal fundraising idea, even if it's for mowing lawns or completing another selfless task.

19. Penny war +

Collecting spare change over time requires little effort but is rewarding overtime! To maximize the donation, you could make it a competition between your coworkers, family, or life group! Raise the stakes of this friendly competition by awarding a prize to whoever collects the most change.

20. Fill-a-Tank/Wheelbarrow/Bucket +

All you have to do is acquire a large container like a fish tank, wheelbarrow, bucket (the possibilities are endless, but something that is unexpected or unique works best. 💡 hang an umbrella upside down from the ceiling so donors can toss their change into it). You don't even have to buy one; try to get it donated if you can! Then, set it out in a prominent place in the community, at your event or ask a local business if they'd be willing to keep your fish tank in their restaurant or store. Supporters then drop in their spare coins and bills to see how quickly they can fill the fish tank. This fundraiser can take place all year long as well, so you'll be able to raise quite a bit of money!

21. Baby Photo Contest +

Everyone at your office or church can participate by bringing in a silly, adorable, or even embarrassing photo of themselves as a child. Line up all the photos and have people vote on their favorite one by placing money beside the images they like. The person with the photo that has the most money wins! This idea could also work as an activity nested within an event, where you will have pre-registered donors who can be instructed to bring a photo with them.

22. Guessing Games +

Guessing games are classic ways to raise funds for many different causes. All you need is a jar filled with the candy of your choice (think something small, like jelly beans or M&M's!). People can guess the amount of candy that they think is in the jar, paying \$1 per guess. Be sure to put your jar in a public and high-trafficked location for the most guesses and donations. The winner takes home the entire jar!

23. Video Game Tournament

Hosting a video game tournament is a unique fundraising idea that will gather all ages for competition and fun! Bring in your favorite video game console and some classic games such as Mario Kart, Super Smash Bros, Sonic, etc. Ask for a small fee to enter the competition, and let the games begin! Offer a prize to the winner. This may be a new video game console, a gift certificate, or any number of game favorites.

24. Envelope Fundraiser

Envelope fundraisers can be adapted to fit any organization, no matter the size. All you need to get started are some envelopes and a bulletin board. Number the envelopes and post them on the bulletin board in a centralized location (that can be monitored). Donors can simply choose the envelope that corresponds with the amount they want to give and place their donation inside the envelope. Once all the envelopes have been filled, the fundraiser is over. Best of all, this easy, inexpensive idea has a high fundraising potential. If 100 envelopes are filled, your organization could raise over \$5,000 for your cause.

25. Host a Dorm or Office Decorating Contest

Students and coworkers all love bringing their own unique touches to their dorm rooms and office spaces. You can put that creativity to use and raise some money with a dorm or office decorating contest! Spread the word a month or two in advance so that contestants have time to prepare. “Judges” (other students, customers, patients, church attenders, etc) vote on their favorite space with their dollars. Whoever has the most votes at the end of the contest can win a small prize or a portion of the money raised.

26. Assist people with easy chores

Put up an ad in your local coffee shop, online, in a newspaper and let people know you can help with picking up dry cleaning, taking pets to the vet, cooking dinner, doing lawn care, taking out the garbage, painting houses, power washing decks, washing cars, taking dogs for walks. You WILL get people tracking you down and you can charge a nice chunk of change for your service.

Level 2: Takes a little more time & effort

27. Sell crafts, baked goods, and more

As far as crafting goes, you can utilize sites like [Etsy](#) to market and sell your crafts, or you can throw them up on Facebook! Baking is also an excellent way to raise money! Homemade cookie dough, cake mix, breads, and flavored popcorn are all super cheap and popular foods to sell!

28. Set up a table at local events and sell items +

Sell glow sticks (GoSendMe GLObal), water bottles, crafts or baked goods at a local event or community festival.

29. Straw Draw Fundraiser +

A straw draw is an easy fundraiser that you can pull off for a school or individual fundraiser. Buy a pack of bendy straws and attach different prizes to each straw. Common prizes include extra recess time (for students), free services from businesses in the community, or a special basket full of goodies. To increase your profits, ask for donated prizes or sponsorships. Be sure to list some of the potential prizes for supporters to get excited about. Then, your supporters can pay a specified amount to pick a straw out of a basket or container. It's so easy, you'll be wondering why you didn't host this fundraiser earlier!

30. Invest money or borrow money to make money.

Purchase items wholesale or at a discounted rate and then resale them online or from a table at an event for more than you purchased them for – profit!

31. Cookbooks

Invite people to show off their favorite recipes in a unique community/church cookbook fundraiser. First, collect your favorite recipes and ask church members, local individuals, and businesses for donations of recipes. Then, sell the cookbook back to the community or church members.

32. Coffee Bean Sale

To get this fundraising idea started, find a local coffee shop or wholesale provider to purchase the coffee beans at the wholesale price. Once you get your partnership established, set up an online shop or sell your coffee beans in a busy area in your community. Let people know why you're raising money and get the word out by promoting your coffee bean sale online and posting flyers around the community.

33. “Best Seat In The House” Fundraiser

All you have to do is hold a traditional raffle! The only difference is that the prize is two of the best seats at a sporting event, concert, or other highly desired event based on your donors. Sweeten the pot a little by offering free concessions to the winners in addition to their prime seats.

34. Pet Pictures

Put your photography skills to use or ask a local photographer to donate their time and set up a “studio” at a local dog park, shelter, pet store, or your own garage. Then, invite pet owners to come and have their pets’ pictures taken! You can have props that can be used during the photoshoot and a snack station for animals and pet owners alike. To raise money, you can charge a fee for the pictures, but you can also sell packages of other merchandise with the pet pictures on them. Who wouldn’t love a t-shirt or a mug with their pet on the front?

35. Host a potluck with an entry fee.

Good food, good fellowship, and raising money for a cause! It requires a little planning and organizing but charging a donation fee at the door is a great way to invite your friends to join with you in raising money for something you’re passionate about! Invite your neighbors or life group over to your house, have everyone bring a dish, and enjoy! Consider theming the food to be brought – ie. international cuisine, Italian, Spanish-style, etc.

36. Host a Chili or BBQ Cookoff

Invite members in your community to show off their best chili recipe! Challenge your neighbors or church to a cookoff to find out who has the best chili in town. To determine the winners, you’ll need to assign volunteers as a panel of judges. Require a registration fee for those who wish to enter into the competition. Don’t forget to provide a prize to the winner. You may choose to make this an annual event for the community to look forward to each year. If chili isn’t your thing, barbeque is another classic option for this unique fundraising competition.

37. Hold a Backyard Barbecue or Sell BBQ

Everyone loves a good old-fashioned barbecue. Whether you’re making ribs, chicken, or veggie burgers, a barbecue is a great way to bring your community together for a common cause & raise money. All you have to do is advertise! You can either charge a fee for your barbecue or simply set up a donation table with a jar for change. Make sure you explain the cause you’re raising money for!

38. Board Game Tournament

Bring out your board games (old classics or popular newbies) and hold a unique tournament fundraising competition. Have people play against one another throughout the night so the overall board game champion may be determined to receive a prize. Require a small fee to register for the game night and watch the sign ups soar!

39. Pet Costume Party +

Host a pet costume party and contest! Start organizing your event by securing a pet-friendly space to host it. A local park is probably your best bet. Solicit donated prizes from local businesses, promote your event, and register contestants. Charge for admission and refreshments on the big day. Pet costume events and parades make great additions to other kinds of public fundraising events, like fall festivals.

40. Paint Class

Host a paint class to help supporters show their creative side! Invite people to pay a registration fee and attend this class to paint. Offer an example painting for everyone to try to copy and walk them through it. If you or your staff don’t know how to paint to teach the class, encourage a local artist to come in and give beginner’s painting tips to everyone.

41. Organize a Trivia Night

You can organize a trivia night by pairing up with a local restaurant or coffee shop. Advertise well in advance and charge an admission fee for trivia teams who want to put their knowledge to the test. You can also ask the manager if they would be willing to give you a portion of the sales from the trivia night to bring in even more money for your cause. Make sure that you have a good system for asking questions and getting teams’ answers. You don’t want to have a disorganized trivia fundraiser!

42. Host a Rock-a-thon

All you’ll need are a few rocking chairs and some willing participants. In the weeks leading up to the event, request sponsorships for your rock-a-thon. People can donate a certain amount for a particular time period spent “rocking out” (i.e, \$5 for every hour spent in a rocking chair). Then, set out your rocking chairs in a well-trafficked area and advertise!

43. Host an Art Show

Whether you're a marvelous artist or have a passion for the arts, you can use your interests to raise money! Search your community for talented artists or use your own works to host an event that puts local artists in the spotlight or displays your creativity. Find a venue that suits your exhibition. You can look into using a local school's gymnasium or auditorium to keep costs low. On the day of the event, charge a few dollars for admission and set up a donation table or booth for general contributions. And don't forget to price the artwork for sale!

44. Geography Bowl

If you have a few geography buffs in your friend group or family, you can host a game of geography bowl to put their knowledge to the test and raise money for your trip! A geography bowl is essentially a trivia night, but with only geography questions! You can host the event in your home, or you can reach out to a local restaurant or coffee shop. Charge a small admission fee and encourage people to make donations throughout the night. Everyone will have fun guessing the answers to tricky geography questions, and you'll raise some extra money!

45. Balloon or Lantern Release +

Invite friends and family and let them know why you're raising money. Charge a nominal amount per balloon or lantern. A lantern or balloon release can also be held in conjunction with another fundraising event, like a dinner or a walkathon.

46. Online Giving Days

You're probably familiar with #GivingTuesday, a national day of charitable giving that started a few years ago. Giving days work so well because they create a sense of urgency and community. Your supporters will rally together to raise as much money as possible in the 24-hour period. Your online giving day will require a lot of online promotion to reach as many supporters as possible. Share the details about your day via social media, in your emails, on your website, and through text messages.

47. Teachers in Jail Fundraiser

This is a quick and easy way to raise a lot of money. Plus, students get a little break from classes, and teachers can catch up on grading and planning. The premise is simple: classes pay a certain amount to have their teacher thrown in "jail" for that class period. The students get to hang out in the gym, on the playground, or in another communal area. The teacher simply stays in the classroom and works on planning, grading, or other tasks.

48. Beard Challenge

If the men in your community are willing to participate, you can host a "Beard Challenge" to raise money for your cause. The Fall or hunting season are great times for this fundraiser. People can donate \$5 to challenge someone in the community to grow a beard for a week. \$10 would be two weeks; \$15 would be three weeks, and so on. With enough participants, you'll end up raising a ton of money and nearly everyone in town will be sporting a beard. Don't forget to let people know why you're raising money!

49. Have a "Non-Event" Event

Sometimes, you just want to stay at home, snack on unhealthy food, and watch a movie. If you need a low-cost fundraiser, host a non-event! Basically, you send out "invitations" to an event that isn't going to take place. Tell people that "nothing will happen on Tuesday at 7:00" and let them know that they can stay in their homes and not worry about socializing. Then, ask for donations for your cause or project. People will be grateful for a night of no social obligations, and you'll raise some extra money.

50. Host a Friendly Competition

If you and your friend, sibling, or other family member have a little bit of a competitive streak in you, you can try hosting a friendly competition to raise money. This fundraiser can also work great for weddings, with competitions between the bride and groom. The competition can take place for one day or over the course of several months. Plan out a few competitions and have your friends and family place wagers on who they think will win each one. The competitions can be as daring and unique as you want. Just make sure that the events are all in good fun!

51. Become a brand ambassador for businesses

Ask local businesses if they want any promotional help from you! Yes, you have to be pretty straightforward in going about this one, so if you have any good relationships with local businesses, you may want to start there. You can offer to promote the business at local trade shows or events, hand out flyers at the grocery stores, or even do online promotion for the business through blogging or social media shout-outs. You might want to try finding any local business groups on Facebook and putting out your feelers there, first, to find some interested companies. Make sure you let them know what *you* can offer *them* to gain some interest.

Level 3: Require some elbow grease or more time, but totally worth it!

52. Delivery driving

UberEats, Doordash, and Favor are food delivery services that are becoming super popular and are in need of drivers! The beauty is, you set your own hours and work as little or as much as you want. Consider signing up through the app and donating a portion of the funds raised.

53. Freelance in your spare time.

You can freelance your time, and chances are there is at least one thing you are good at, that people online will pay you to do from home. Use the skill you use during your day job afterhours by signing on to one of these freelancing websites: [Freelancer](#), [Upwork](#), [Guru](#), and [SoloGig](#)

54. Sell your advice or teach something you know

If you are great at something you can advise other people on how to do that great thing. The most common things that people are looking for advice for include cooking, gardening, woodworking, sewing, knitting, and auto mechanics among others. Contact magazines or websites dedicated to your craft or hobby and offer to write an article or column. If you have to do one for free it's ok because it will help you build a presence online. Join online groups, post advice and let people get to know you. You can set up your website and offer consulting services or advertise in your local paper or on buying and selling websites. People will reach out to you if you offer a great service with a fair price, so get creative with that hidden talent of yours. Sites to get started: [JustAnswer](#), [Chegg](#), or [Udemy](#)

55. Become a fitness coach or activity leader

Think outside the box - start a hiking group and charge people a fee for each organized hike. If you know a unique style of dance, start up a class at your local community center or fitness club – or even in your backyard. If you know a martial art, start a class. If you are good at motivating people and also know about working out, become a personal coach. Start a biking group and organize interesting routes to interesting places. Start a healthy cooking class; charge people a nominal amount for sending them a healthy new recipe every day.

56. Design websites for other people

You don't need tech-wizard skills to create a website, these days there are all sorts of platforms you can use to create a website, like WordPress or Weebly. There are ready-made templates you can use for the design for your site – complete with home page, banners, buttons and additional pages. Just add in your information like the name of the site and what it's about and you're good to go. All you need is a few hours to get familiar with whatever platform you're going to use and then you can advertise your services in online marketplaces.

57. Tutoring Students

You might be a gifted mathematician, or perhaps you have a knack for outlining essays and writing thesis statements. Whatever your strong points are, you can use them to help out students and raise money for your cause, project, or organization! Set up a tutoring service and charge a small hourly fee. Just make sure that you have the time!

58. Grants

Foundations, corporations, and governments often give grants to qualifying organizations that submit an application. While most grants have a lot of competition and the grant-writing process can be time-consuming, the rewards can be worth it. To get started, you'll need to research grants that coincide with your nonprofit's goals and core mission as this will increase your chances of receiving a grant. You may want to work with a specialist (like the Google Grants consultants at DNL OmniMedia) who can provide guidance as you apply for and maintain your funding.

59. Start a blog

Choose a topic you love talking about and blog about it. If you choose a niche topic and write about interesting stuff, you can easily make money with your blog. When you get lots of people visiting your site you can place advertisements on your site and voila – you're racking up dollars like nobody's business. Once you get the hang of things, you can even sell things on your site that you create yourself like books or other merchandise.

60. Write an ebook

Write a book. Publish the eBook version on Kindle. Use Createspace to make a hard copy version, and then market your book across media platforms, such as Amazon which takes a percentage of the book price, this can range from 25% to 70% based upon the program you select. Money is deposited directly into your bank account each month. There are also a number of other platforms you can publish your book on such as Nook Books.

61. Golf Tournament

Golf tournaments are another fundraising idea with the possibility to yield *huge* returns on the resources you spend to plan them. By offering additional games, challenges, and donation opportunities throughout your golf tournament, organizations regularly exceed their fundraising goals and attendees look forward to each year's tournament. Of course, any activity that your supporters enjoy can become a tournament event!

62. Car Smashing Fundraiser

Hosting a car smash is a unique fundraising idea perfect for teenagers (with supervision) and young adults who want to release some pent-up energy. Ask your local junkyard or some with a broken-down vehicle to donate a vehicle to the cause, preferably one with the body and glass still intact. Smashing a car whose body is intact is much more satisfying because you can see the destruction. Next, you'll need to ask a mechanic to donate their time taking dangerous parts and liquids from the car. Don't forget to provide safety glasses for participants! To smash the car, give the participants metal bats or sledgehammers. Participants of the car smash can either pay per swing or pay per minute of mayhem.

63. Online Merchandise Store

Custom merchandise is one of the most flexible and cost-effective fundraising ideas for both individuals and groups raising money for projects or causes. Combining the popularity of custom-designed apparel, water bottles, backpacks, mouse pads, canvas totes, and more with the ease of online ordering is a no-brainer. 💡 Pro Tip: If you've already considered designing custom fundraising merchandise, be sure to choose a platform or service that offers multiple ways to sell apparel online. This strategy works well as a nonprofit or personal fundraising idea, especially if you have any kind of substantial following online as a content creator or other personality in your space. All it takes is some creativity and a bit of promotion to start making a profit on merchandise.

64. Do Artistic Commissions

If you have an eye for art, you can take artistic commissions to help raise funds for your project, cause, or event. Advertise your artistic services on social media and let people know what your rates are for different works of art. Just make sure that you stay on top of all of your requests & don't over book yourself. It might help to create a checklist of items to create along with the corresponding contact information for the individuals who placed the order.

65. Create and Sell Custom Calendars

Wall or desk calendars are the perfect fundraising product. They can promote your nonprofit's cause and are easy to create and sell. Start creating your calendars in the middle of summer, so you'll have plenty of time to advertise and sell them to members of your community before the new year starts. You can add images of the people or places that you serve and add quotes, statistics, and other facts that educate supporters about your nonprofit's mission. Sell the calendars in your nonprofit's network, at your church, and in your online storefront so that anyone can purchase one and support your cause.

But

Wait!

There's

More

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***** Fundraising Ideas for Groups *****

Proper prior planning prevents poor performance!
So, gather your group up, share ideas, get a game plan and make it happen!

Level 1: Easy peesy

66. Corporate Sponsorships

A sponsorship is essentially a trade; your sponsor offers financial or in-kind support for your cause or event, and you offer them positive publicity in exchange. This is a particularly effective strategy for large-scale public events, like marathons and festivals, although it's always worth it to brainstorm potential partners for any project.

67. Restaurant Giving Night

Profit shares are a great and easy fundraising idea!! Contact restaurants in your area and ask if they would partner with you for a giving night. On this night, you support the business by bringing people to the restaurant to eat, and a portion of the profit the restaurant makes that night is donated to the organization.

68. Food Truck Partnership +

Partnering with a local food truck is an easy way to raise some support for your project or cause. Reach out to a food truck entrepreneur in your neighborhood to discuss your cause and ask if they'd be willing to take part in a percentage fundraising event. Many food trucks will likely be eager to get involved in order to help out and reach new customers for the first time! Reach out to other local organizations in your area that host large gatherings of people. These groups are typically in the best position to partner with a food truck. 💡 Pro tip: get creative to implement this idea into your other fundraising events.

69. Balloon Raffle +

All you need to get started are balloons, raffle tickets, and a prize. Place a raffle ticket inside of every balloon, and charge \$1 for each balloon. Everyone will pop the balloons they purchase to find their raffle ticket. The person with the winning ticket gets the prize. Balloon raffles work best when they are an activity nested within a larger event, where you have a large audience of donors in one location, like during a fundraising gala or auction.

70. Social Media Challenges

You're probably familiar with the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge, where supporters dumped ice-cold water on their heads to raise awareness for ALS. Over 17 million people uploaded videos and the organization raised \$15 million. You can create a similar online fundraiser for your cause! All you need to do is pick a challenge or task that can be easily accomplished and something that's related to your cause. Your task should also be something that people will enjoy watching. Have a few of your group members record themselves completing your challenge, share the videos online with a link to your *online donation form, and then encourage others to do the same. **GSM already has an online giving platform that can be used for collecting donations! Just ask for the details.*

71. Host a Serve-a-thon Event

A Serve-a-thon fundraiser helps you raise money while cleaning up your community at the same time. Ask for donations per item of trash that you pick up on a given day. For example, someone might donate a dollar for every aluminum can you pick up. Collect sponsorships and donations from people in your community, and then get out and clean up your town!

72. Read-a-thon

Group members obtain pledges from their friends and family members for the number of pages of books that they can read in a month. Then, they log their reading times. Once the month ends, the supporters fulfill their end of the bargain and donate however much money they pledged. You can even offer a prize to the person who reads the most.

73. Coach/Principal/ Youth Pastor “Punishment” Fundraiser

Who wouldn't pay to see their coach/principal/youth pastor duct taped to a wall, have their hair dyed a ridiculous color, or be forced to sit in a tree? You can create a coach “punishment” fundraiser and raise some money while having a little fun! As long as the one being punished is in on the event, you can start fundraising for various types of “punishments.” People vote for their favorite ones with their dollars & the one with the most money is carried out!

74. Rent-a-Teen

A “Rent-a-Teen” fundraiser involves individuals hiring members of your youth group to complete a specific task. Common jobs include mowing lawns, cleaning gutters, babysitting, and dog walking, but feel free to get creative! You can charge per task or by the hour. Make sure that community members know why you're trying to raise money.

Level 2: Takes a little more planning

75. T-Shirt Fundraiser

T-shirts are the perfect product to pair with your crowdfunding campaign. Everyone can wear them, and if you customize the shirt to highlight your cause or project, people will always remember it! When you set up your crowdfunding campaign, you can set up giving levels. Each level can correspond to a different combination of items. For instance, a \$25 donation might get a donor a t-shirt, but a \$50 donation might result in a t-shirt plus a hat. The options for apparel are limitless. You can sell sweatshirts, hats, scarves, mittens, and more! There are two strategies for selling t-shirts: buy them in bulk and sell in-person or use an online ordering system. Check out this website to find out more about t-shirt fundraisers: [Sunday Cool](#)

76. Sell Discount Cards

Discount cards can be one of the cheapest fundraising ideas for organizations and individuals if you invest plenty of time into developing them. That means you'll need to reach out to plenty of popular local businesses to set up unique discounts and promotions. The only real expense you'll have with this fundraising idea is the cost of printing the discount cards. With the right promotions from the right local businesses, though, you'll make that up in no time! Discount cards work great for groups in both small towns and tight-knit neighborhoods.

77. Buy-a-Brick Fundraiser

This fundraiser is perfect if your organization has a construction project on a building, sidewalk, or other structure (but it can work for any project!). Before building commences, community members can buy a brick and have a message engraved on one side. This strategy invites supporters to share in the excitement of the project. These types of fundraisers are perfect for commemorative walkways, staircases, and archways.

78. Sell Candles

Hosting a candle sale is one of the best ways to raise money! There are many wholesale candle companies that you can purchase from. They might even offer discounts for organizations. Choose seasonal scents that will make people's homes smell delicious. You can sell the candles to individuals in the community.

79. Sell Coupon Books

No one likes paying full price for everything. To help people save a little money (and make some cash for your project or cause), you can sell coupon books to individuals in your community. Get in touch with a company that prints coupon booklets and order some in bulk. Then, reach out to your friends and family members and start selling your coupon books! You can even advertise the booklets on social media and via email.

80. Wreath and Ornament Sale

For this fundraising idea, you'll need a few volunteers to make and sell the items and craft supplies. You can have your volunteers design one wreath or ornament to sell every year or have everyone create their own unique designs. Additionally, you can sell other items like ribbon and wreath hooks.

81. Flower Bulb Sales

Flower bulb sales are a favorite during the spring and especially around Mother's Day. All you have to do is buy flower bulbs in bulk and sell them around the community! You can choose a wide variety of flowers or stick with classics, like roses or tulips. There are several companies that offer lots of options at competitive prices, all with the convenience of online ordering. You can sell the bulbs to your family members, friends, neighbors, and other members of the community. You can even turn the fundraiser into a competition between your closest friends to see who can raise the most money.

82. Appreciation Grams

Appreciation grams can help you raise funds and build camaraderie between your community. Plus, it's a fundraising idea that's relatively inexpensive to host and will work great for any time during the year. You can charge people at work, school, or even in the neighborhood a small fee (\$0.50 or \$1) to send out a customized note that acknowledges anyone in the community. You can get as creative with the notes as you like. For example, you could charge extra for different designs or include a piece of candy with each note.

83. Play the Easter Bunny

Kids love Easter egg hunts. Parents (err, the Easter Bunny) don't always have time to hide all the eggs the night before Easter. For this fundraiser you would advertise several weeks before Easter a service to hide Easter eggs in yards. Customers will pay in advance for the number of eggs they would like hidden (ie. 50 for \$25; 100 for \$40; 200 for \$60) & provide instructions about where & when they would like them "delivered". Then, you will need to purchase plastic eggs in bulk, candy and/or trinkets. [Sunny Bunny Easter Eggs](#) is a great place to buy candy or toy-filled eggs (they employ people with disabilities to stuff & package the eggs!). The night before or early morning of Easter you'll make the drop – maybe in costume in case you get caught!

84. Car Wash

Hold a car wash for your community. You can make your car wash unique to your cause by adding a fun spin to the fundraiser. Try hosting a wacky car wash where your volunteers dress up in their wackiest clothes, where free entertainment is provided while the cars are being washed, or where hotdogs & lemonade are also for sale. All that's necessary for this event are sponges, soap, and hands ready to work.

85. Easter Egg Hunt

While hosting an Easter egg hunt can only be a once-a-year event, it's a great opportunity to involve families and the surrounding community. Plus, an Easter egg hunt is incredibly simple to plan. All you need is a large enough space to host your hunt, a couple hundred (or a few thousand depending on your anticipated crowd) plastic eggs and treats to fill the eggs. You can raise money by charging an entrance fee and selling Easter egg baskets so that the children can carry the eggs that they find.

86. Shoe drive +

Partner with Funds2Orgs and run a community shoe drive! They provide you with collection materials to distribute throughout your community, you get people to donate their gently used shoes, they pick up the shoes and send you a check! [Learn more about shoe drives here](#)

87. Host a Craft Fair

Selling the crafts of local artists is a great way to get the name of those artists to the community while promoting your organization. There are two ways to host a craft fair in your area. The first option is to ask for donations from local artists, such as paintings, soap, candles, and other homemade goods. Then sell these goods to the community. The second option is to gather tents and tables, then ask local artists to pay a fee to set up at the fair. They will sell their goods and spread their name while you fundraise. Bonus: Combine your craft fair with other fundraisers to get the most out of the day! For instance, engage your audience further with a raffle at the fair or with collection boxes for your shoe fundraiser.

88. Host a Sing-a-thon

Host a sing-a-thon to put you and your friends' talents to good use! A sing-a-thon (or hymn-a-thon for churches) is a singing event that helps you raise money. You can charge admission to the singing festivities and sell concessions throughout the event. You can also create a request system where guests can ask for particular songs by donating a few dollars to the choir director or song leader.

89. Themed Fundraising Party

Charge a few dollars at the door. People that show up in a themed costume can pay \$3 while those in “normal” clothes can pay \$5. You can also sell concessions during the event to raise extra money. Just don’t forget to promote your themed fundraising party on social media. You want supporters to invite as many people as they can to help you raise more money!

90. Create an Obstacle Course Event

Obstacle courses can be fun challenges for kids, teenagers, and adults alike. Create different games and obstacles that make up the larger course. Then, set up an online registration form. Give people the option to participate as individuals or in teams. And don’t forget to offer a small prize for whoever gets through the course the fastest!

91. Hold a Field Day

You can plan for traditional games like tug o’ war, three-legged race, water balloon toss, and more! But don’t hesitate to make up your own fun and unique field day games. Charge a small admission fee or charge per game at the event. You can even sell concessions and merchandise like water bottles, t-shirts, and caps.

92. Host a Talent Show

If you have access to a venue and know a few performers, you can host a community talent show as one of your charity ideas! Artists and entertainers of all kinds can participate. Charge a small admission fee and sell concessions to supplement your fundraising efforts. Don’t forget to set up a general donation table or booth. You can use the space to let attendees know about your cause or project and why you’re asking for contributions.

93. Angel Festival

This is a Christmas-themed fundraiser. First, you’ll need to recruit “designers” who will craft life-size angels out of whatever materials they want. Then, display the angels at a festival and sell hot cocoa and cider. People vote on their favorite angel by placing money in containers underneath each one. It’s that easy!

94. Host a Parents’ Night Out

Host a parents’ night out while you watch the kids & raise money! There are two options: find a venue and set up a fun night of food, drinks, and socializing for parents, or simply provide childcare while the parents go out on their own date night. Take care of their evening from start to finish!

95. Host a family movie night

Simply set up a projector, a large screen, sheet or wall, and a fun, family-friendly movie. Charge a small admission fee and sell concessions to supplement your fundraising efforts. Don’t forget to set up a general donation table or booth. You can use the space to let attendees know about your cause or project and why you’re asking for contributions.

96. Host a Seasonal Fundraiser

Seasonal fundraisers can take many forms, but their unifying feature is that they are related to the current season or holiday. For instance, you can sell wrapping paper during Christmas, set up a pumpkin patch in October, or sell tulips around Mother’s day. The options are endless! Seasonal fundraisers are great because you will *always* have a way to raise money, regardless of the temperature, time of year, or occasion. Additionally, you can make your seasonal fundraiser as involved or hands-off as you want.

97. Kids’ Face Painting Event +

If there’s another event going on in your local community, you can ask if you can set up a kids’ face-painting booth to raise money. Make sure that you have lots of different designs and patterns as well as paint that is safe for children. You can also use the space to advertise the cause or project you’re raising funds for. Charge a small fee for the face painting and put out a general donation jar to raise even more money!

98. Host a pie auction +

Ask for pie donations from your church or community and then auction them off as an add-on fundraiser to any event. Be sure to share what the funds will go toward & watch the competitive, mouth-watering donors bid on the “world’s best apple pie” from the sweet, little grandma in your church.

99. Multicultural Fair

A multicultural fair is a great way for schools and other organizations to raise funds and showcase their diverse heritages. Student groups can perform cultural demonstrations or sell products and food. Offer an incentive to the group who raises the most money! 💡 Pro tip: Adapt this idea to missions & have booths set up for different mission fields. Share facts about the country & the people groups there, have samples of the cuisine from that country, and if possible, tell about the missionaries who are serving in that country or about the need for more missionaries there. Combine this event with any add-on fundraisers and sell full servings of some of the different cuisines that are being sampled.

100. Have a Rubber Duck Race

This is a silly fundraising event that can be a fun way to get to know more of your local supporters and inform them about why you're raising funds. Buy some yellow rubber ducks in bulk and write numbers on the bottom of them. Then, sell tickets with the same numbers to your local supporters, and release the ducks into a local river or stream. The first duck to cross the finish line entitles its "owner" to a small prize. Just make sure you have a way to capture all of the ducks once the event is over!

101. Host a Community Picnic

A community picnic can be an excellent opportunity to get to know your supporters better, educate them about your cause, and raise money for your nonprofit. Send out invitations a few weeks in advance and promote your picnic on social media and via email. You can either supply the food or ask people to bring covered dishes. Charge a small admission fee for the picnic and set up a general donation table or booth. Have a staff member stationed at the table to answer any questions that attendees might have and give them more information about supporting your nonprofit and getting involved.

102. Host a Pie-Throwing Contest

A pie-throwing contest can be a great fundraising event that's sure to draw a huge crowd, lots of laughs, and some extra fundraising dollars! Create simple whipped cream pies in tin foil plates and charge a few dollars per pie. You, your staff (if you're an organization), and/or a few volunteers can line up as the targets. Supporters will get a kick out of the event, and you'll raise some money for your organization, cause, or project.

103. Hold a Scavenger Hunt

Have teams of kids or adults sign up and pay a registration fee. You can set up an online registration form or place one in a centrally-located spot. Then, create a course and hide items around your building & grounds. The winners can even receive a small prize! 💡 Pro tip: This fundraiser can be upscaled by spreading the course & hidden items out around the community. Perhaps, even include tasks that have to be completed with proof of completion provided from pictures & videos (a Photo Scavenger Hunt).

104. Christmas Decoration Service

This fundraising idea can go a couple of different ways. Your group can either charge a fee to *put up* Christmas decorations or to *take them down* after the holidays are over. Either way, you will need to advertise your services to the community. You can hang up flyers, take out ads in the newspaper, and spread the word with social media and emails. You'll be able to spread some holiday cheer and raise money *all at the same time!*

105. Gift-Wrapping Services

Once the holidays roll around, it feels like everyone is in a mad dash to buy and wrap presents for everyone on their list. You can help these frenzied people out and earn a little extra money by offering gift-wrapping services. You can partner with a local department or retail store or offer gift-wrapping services in a well-trafficked (but spacious) area. Offer extras like bows, ribbons, and tags to earn a little extra money. 💡 Pro tip: Check out some Youtube videos to learn a unique wrapping style or how to wrap oddly-shaped gifts.

Level 3: It's a group effort, so all hands on deck!

106. Host a 5K or 10K Race, Marathon or Fun Run

These ideas are great ways to pair physical activity with raising money for a cause! Require a registration fee for runners and partner with local companies who can sponsor the event & even donate prizes for 1st, 2nd & 3rd place winners. Also, ask for donations for grab-bags to give to each participant. Print t-shirts with the race name (*GSM has hosted a SoleGlo in the past where glow sticks were passed out at an evening race*). Be sure to have plenty of water stations, first aid kits, and a medical professional to administer first aid if needed. Don't forget to advertise, advertise, advertise! 💡 Pro tip: You can attract serious runners to the event if you get your track certified (or use a certified track) and offer chip timing, so that it can be a qualifying race.

107. Host a walk-a-thon

Walkathons are perfect for active supporters who like to show their passion for a cause. You'll need to determine a location and time for your walkathon. Choose a season that is a good temperature with minimal risk of rain. Make sure you have a backup location just in case! Then, send out invitations and design some merchandise like t-shirts and water bottles. You can sell these for an extra fee to raise money above any entrance costs you charge.

108. Host a paw-a-thon

A dog paw-a-thon is the same as a walk-a-thon but with adorable pooches! Of course, people can still participate, but they can bring their (leashed) dogs along to keep them company while they walk. You should make sure to have water stations set up for humans and pups alike, especially if you host your dog walk-a-thon on a really hot day! You can charge an admission fee to raise money, but you can also sell shirts, caps, water bottles, and leashes to raise more. With the proper promotion, your dog walkathon can be a major hit.

109. Raffle Night/Silent Auction

Get your church, company, or neighborhood together for a raffle night or silent auction! Contact local businesses who may want to donate gift cards, coupons, or other services to your event, and ask friends to donate as well. Encourage people to buy raffle tickets or bid on their favorite item. There's also an online silent auction option that can be explored here: [OneCause's Silent Auction Planning Guide](#)

110. 50/50 Raffle +

Whether you pair it with a larger fundraising event or host it as a stand-alone fundraiser, a 50/50 raffle is a quick and easy way for organizations and individuals to raise money. The 50/50 raffle works like any other raffle — except the winner gets half of the funds you raise and you get the other half. Since the prize is half the funds raised, supporters are more motivated to purchase raffle tickets and encourage their friends and family members to do the same. Use the online outlets where you have the most followers to spread the word about your raffle and announce the winner during an event where you can discuss your cause or project in more depth.

111. Reverse Raffle +

Sell raffle tickets to your supporters at an event like an auction or gala. Then, draw the corresponding numbers out of a bowl or other container throughout the night. The person with the last ticket in the bowl is the winner! The prize for a reverse raffle is usually something unique and desirable that encourages people to purchase more raffle tickets.

112. Gala

If you're looking for an event for generous donors, host a classic gala! Galas allow people with similar passions and interests to get together over good food and a common cause. Combine this gala with your silent auction or raffle to spark some friendly fundraising competition in your attendees. Try a themed gala: a classic costume ball, a Halloween costume party, or even themed to a popular movie series.

113. Host a Carnival

Carnivals make for a fun family outing as well as a unique fundraising opportunity for your organization. Rent (or buy on Amazon) carnival games and attractions then invite people to buy tickets to the event and to participate in the attractions. Have volunteers assigned to run the games and hand out small prizes to winners of each game.

114. Battle of the Bands

Throw a contest between local bands from your community, they will be excited to donate their time to gain publicity and the community will be excited for a night of live music and fellowship! Ask a local business to host or host it at your Church, charge an entry fee, and leave buckets out for donations as people feel lead!

115. Classic Car Show

Get as many classic cars together as you can and line them up in a common space like a parking lot or field. Then, charge admission for people to come through and view the vehicles. You can even have side events like a raffle or auction to raise even more.

116. Hold Your Own Olympic Games

Everyone gets excited about the Olympics. It doesn't matter if you prefer the summer or winter games, you likely have a favorite event. You can replicate the Olympic games and raise money for any cause or project. While it will take some planning, hosting mock Olympic games can be great fun for the families in your local community. You can organize events like track and field races, swimming competitions, and more! You can charge an admission fee for attendees and sell (healthy) concessions for when people get hungry and thirsty. Don't forget the medal ceremony!

117. Host a Kids Camp

Host a kids camp to raise money and educate children about sports and exercise. You can charge a fee for a summer skills camp and bring all the kids in your community out for a few afternoons of practice, scrimmages, and fun.

118. Flag Subscription Service

A flag subscription fundraiser is a longer-term way to raise money, but it can also help your community show some patriotism. All you have to do is sign people up for the service, charge a small monthly or yearly fee, and hang holiday-appropriate flags on their front porches, in their yards, or on their places of business. For instance, you could hang the American flag during November for Veterans' Day, but you could change it to a holiday-themed flag during December.