

FIGHT POVERTY

Interesting Incentives, Games, Activities, Fun Themes & Ways to Say Thank You

It's exciting to give back to the community! Campaigns can be fun and inspiring. The most successful campaigns include special events, contests and games that bring people together. Here are some helpful suggestions to get you started.

Incentives, Activities and Games

Liven up your campaign with incentives, activities and games to maximize participation. Giving back and taking action in your community is worth the celebration, so feel free to mark this special time with an office party, competitions, auctions and prizes for outstanding participation.

CHILDREN'S DRAWING CONTEST -

Give employees "official photographs" of one or two top executives to take home for their children to draw. There is a \$5.00 entry fee per child. Employees vote for the best drawing by paying \$1.00 per vote.

BROWN BAG LUNCH DAY -

Everyone brings in their own lunch and donates the money they would have spent to United Way.

BOSS FOR THE DAY -

Allow employees to bid on being boss for the day. Highest bid wins!



SHAVE FOR UNITED WAY -

Have someone agree to have their head shaved once a certain amount of money has been raised.

BE A LEADER DAY -

Organize a special happy hour or in-office luncheon for donors who give at the Leadership level.

JEANS DAY -

Allow donors who give directly to the Impact Fund, or if your campaign reaches your goal, allow employees to wear jeans for an extra day of the work week.

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PENNY JAR -

Each department has a jar and each penny equals a point. Anything else equals its value in negative points. The department with the most positive points at the end of the week wins.

OFFICE CONTESTS -

Let your peers show off their talents. Plan a talent show or pageant. Performers should perform for prizes and their talents should inspire giving. Let performers collect dollars while on stage to be given to the campaign.

CAMPAIGN CLUE -

Clue's the name of the game! Create a United Way mystery in the office. Create the game around employees who are willing to participate and have some fun. Whoever can guess who committed the crime wins a prize. Or set up a live Clue game with a billiard room, candlestick and more.

FLAMINGOS -

Employees may pay \$X amount and the obnoxious birds will appear in their choice of department or someone's office. The only way for a person or department to remove the birds is to pay a "flamingo removal fee." They may then choose at that time where the birds are going to be relocated. People may also purchase "flamingo insurance," this prevents the birds from landing in their office.

OFFICE OLYMPICS -

Organize a series of games and prizes to play in the office. Games could be played by individuals or teams. Award medals to winning teams. Whatever team collects the most medals wins a prize.

TUG-OF-WAR -

Have employees against executive staff or interdepartmental competition. Each team pays a fee to enter.

LUNCH BOX AUCTION -

Employees supply lunches to be auctioned off and give prizes for the most creative or elegant lunches.

COMPANY COOK OFF -

Let your peers show off their culinary talents with a cook off. Let employees vote for their favorites and award prizes to the most popular chef.

COMPLIMENT-O-GRAMS -

Make up special forms and sell them to employees as an anonymous way to give a compliment

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to someone in the office. Compliment-O-Grams must be delivered by a trustworthy employee sworn to secrecy. Charge a dollar per compliment.

HALLOWEEN PUMPKIN CARVING CONTEST -

Plan a Halloween theme and hold a pumpkin carving contest. Find a local business willing to donate pumpkins for your organization to sell to your employees. Employees buy pumpkins individually or by group. Charge \$5.00 to enter and \$1.00 per vote.



TAILGATE PARTY -

Create a sports theme for your campaign if the United Way campaign coincides with football season. Back a truck into the employee lounge, lower the tailgate, and sell football fare: hotdogs, chips, soft drinks, and other goodies. Play a game of tag or video football with participants donating an entrance fee and observers wagering bets.

BALLOON-O-GRAM -

Employees have messages tied in helium balloons delivered to designated co-workers. Charge \$1.00 per balloon.

THEMED CHINESE AUCTION -

Employees design their own themed baskets to be auctioned off at an in-office event. The auction can be a standard bidding auction or a Chinese auction where employees spend \$5 for each ticket to be drawn for each basket.

OTHER INCENTIVE IDEAS -

- Corporate match
- Jersey Day
- Show your spirit day (college sports teams)
- Prime parking space
- Early out or late-arrival passes
- Pizza party
- Restaurant gift certificates
- Themed basket raffle

Fun Themes

BE A HERO -

Heroes should fight for the underserved and champion a cause. ECCs and company leadership can dress as super heroes fighting poverty, hunger, etc. Be creative and turn your office into a living comic book fighting to end poverty. Events may include a costume contest, fundraising champion awards or volunteer time off.

GO FOR THE GOAL -

Challenge employees to crush your goal or, if this isn't your first United Way campaign, your previous fundraising record.

JOIN THE WINNING TEAM -

Harness the spirit of competition to meet your campaign goals. Divide your group of potential donors into teams. Create a range of prizes from 1st to 3rd place for those who raise the most. Events could include a walk-a-thon, company baseball or football game, a golf outing, office Olympics or a pep rally campaign kick-off.

HOLIDAY CHEER -

The holidays are a great time to get in the giving spirit. Hosting your campaign around Halloween? Have a costume or pumpkin carving contest. Do you have a December kick-off? Host a toy drive or a Christmas cookie pot-luck. There are ample opportunities around the holidays for fun games and events to excite your peers.

CAMPAIGN THAT CARES -

Celebrate the caring spirit, because our region needs your support. Inspire peers with stories of Impact and set a goal for an initiative in your local community. Have a collection drive and establish goals to measure your Impact.

KNOW YOUR COMMUNITY -

Educate peers on the community by scheduling talks with local agency partners or public or elected officials to discuss community needs and how employees can make a difference. Plan a trivia contest, collect historical photos or newspaper clippings for office decorations or plan trips or picnics in local parks or historical sites.

BEACH PARTY -

Bring the heat inside with a beach party. Set up a volleyball net in an open area for people to play. Decorate the office in beach balls and other fun toys. Offer food that's refreshing (fruits, smoothies, ice cream, etc.) and "beachy."

Get the Ball Rolling!

Be sure to plan accordingly for all themes, contests and giveaways. Begin discussions with members of your campaign committee. Discuss steps to implement activities and be sure all of the necessary parties in your organization are notified before launching your campaign. Carefully read through company policies and contact your human resources department, organizational leadership or United Way representative with any questions you may have.

Saying 'Thank You!'

Fighting poverty is a community effort that requires people to give their time, talent and treasure, so be sure to thank your donors in a special way.

Thank yous can be as large or as small of a gesture as you want. This is another great opportunity for you to be creative. Thank employees in newsletters, through e-mail, with a special brunch or dinner, personalized letters or personal phone calls made by your president or committee members or thank you posters that include the names of all donors.

