



**United Way
Centraide**
Windsor-Essex County

FUNDRAISING IDEA GUIDE

Your one stop shop for creative workplace fundraising ideas!

WELCOME!

Hey there! Welcome to your one stop shop for creative workplace fundraising ideas!

First things first, **THANK YOU** for your dedication to your workplace United Way Campaign. Every dollar you raise helps us support children and families right here in Windsor Essex.

Inside this guide you will find lots of different ideas for fundraising, include raffle ideas, games, food fun, incentive ideas and more!

Some ideas may have to be adapted to be done virtually, or contactless. Please keep safety in mind as you fundraise for your United Way Campaign. For more information about COVID-19 safety, visit the WECHU website, [here](#).

Most importantly, **HAVE FUN!**



RAFFLES & THINGS

"BINGO!"

Purchase Bingo cards and distribute to employees. Every day email a Bingo number to all participants. The first one to reply with "BINGO" wins. The Bingo game continues until all prizes are distributed. OR, play virtual bingo using a website like: <https://bingobaker.com/>

Silent Auction

The company donates auction items such as office furniture, printers, scanners, computers, corporate box seats at a sporting event, company apparel, etc. Employees can also donate items/services. All proceeds go to United Way.



Box Raffle

Boxes are placed in highly-trafficked areas with the name of a prize on each. Employees buy tickets and put them in the boxes corresponding to the prize they want to win. A winner is drawn from each box. Adapt this so that employees don't know what's in the box, but rather buy tickets based on the size/ wrapping/ look of the box.



Executive Lawn Ornament

Managers or executives donate time to do yard work at the homes of employees who bid for their services.

Getaway

Have co-workers donate time at their vacation cottages to the highest bidder.

Reverse Raffle

Add an exciting element of suspense to the traditional raffle format. Sell raffle tickets like a typical raffle fundraiser. Instead of drawing a single winning ticket for the raffle, you draw all the tickets out, day by day, and the last ticket left is the winner! If you want to spice this format up further, consider assigning random prizes to some of the ticket holders who you pull throughout your campaign period! Make it more fun by allowing ticket holder to "buy back in" up to a certain date.



GSC Kick Off



LEGEND



**BUDGET
NEEDED**



**LICENCE
COULD BE
NEEDED**



TD Canada Trust employees playing Jenga



LEGEND



**BUDGET
NEEDED**



**LICENCE
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GAMES

Guess the Number

Fill a clear jar with candy and have employees pay for a chance to guess the number of pieces in the jar. The most accurate guess wins the candy or another prize. Can also be done virtually!



Golf Putt

Supply a putting green and club. Employees pay per putt for a chance to win prizes. Putting green over your budget? Get creative- use a red solo cup on its side, or a piece of ply wood with a hole, etc!



Executive Dunk Tank

Pay per ball for a chance to dunk your boss or pay a higher fee to walk up and press the "dunk" button. Participants could even pay extra to add a bag of ice to the dunk tank water.



High Score

Place a dart board in the office and sell dart board shots. Award prizes to winners.



Balloon Grams

Sell balloons with notes of recognition inside and deliver to your co-workers. They'll have to pop it to see what's inside or wait till their balloon naturally deflates for a nice reminder another day! You could even include a note on the back about United Way!



Balloon Pop Surprise

Put a prize note in each balloon (soda, jeans day, gift card, candy bar, sports tickets, etc.) Be sure to have one big prize. Place balloons in a contained area and have participants pay to pop balloons for prizes



Mystery Pumpkins

Buy miniature or regular pumpkins for employees to purchase. Write numbers on the bottom of each pumpkin. Draw numbers for prizes corresponding to the numbers on the pumpkins. Pumpkins can be taken home and carved for a later Pumpkin Carving contest.



OTHER FUN IDEAS

Change Maker Jars

Place empty jars near vending machines or gathering places. Ask employees to deposit spare change throughout the year for United Way. This can be a competition between departments to see who collects the most change within a given time frame.

Buy a Boa

Purchase brightly colored feather boas for employees to buy. The purchaser chooses a person to wear the boa for the day. In order to get rid of the boa, the wearer must pay to pick another employee to wear the boa. The boa must be worn at least 10 minutes prior to choosing another lucky boa wearer. (Consider buying multiple boas for safety).



Dress Down Day

Employees pay to not wear "normal" work attire. Get as casual as needed: jeans, tennis shoes, sports apparel, hats, slippers, etc. Contact your United Way for stickers that say "I Dress This Way for United Way" and distribute to participating employees. This could be done virtual too.

Smell the Roses

Have a local florist donate flowers or purchase flowers en masse. Employees buy flowers or arrangements to send to co-workers or for personal use.



Charge Late Fees

Employees who arrive late for meetings, or any other tardiness, pay a fee to be donated to United Way. You could do this for the duration of your campaign, for a week, for a month- get creative and have fun!



Wine Survivor

Pick a workplace champion who to collect money and wine from employees who wish to participate. \$10 and your favourite bottle of (Local) wine gets you a seat around the survivors circle. Each week, draw a name out and that person is eliminated from "Wine Survivor" . Do this until there are three names left! Allocate the bottles of wine based on the places, and donate money to UW. Consider adding a "buy back in" option!



LCBO 'Slime Time'



LEGEND



**BUDGET
NEEDED**



**LICENCE
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FOOD FUN

Lunch Box Auction

Employees create gourmet lunches to be auctioned off to the highest bidder. Give prizes for the most creative, nutritious, elegant or clever meals. Adapt this so that bidders don't know what's in the box, but are bidding based on the box itself (make sure to determine which boxes are vegetarian, gluten free, dairy free, etc.). All bids are donated to United Way.

Bake Sale

Employees buy employee-donated baked goods with donations benefiting United Way. Consider pre-packaging treats to maintain safety.

Nacho/Pretzel Sale

Sell large plates of nachos and/or soft pretzels with cheese and jalapeno peppers. Donate proceeds to United Way.



Ice Cream Cart

On a hot day, visit employee cubicles and offices selling popsicles, ice cream sandwiches and other cold snacks. Donate proceeds to United Way.



Peanuts, Get Your Peanuts!

Find some kids of push cart. Decorate it! Then stock the cart with individual bags of salted peanuts, chips, hot dogs, soda and all necessary condiments (ketchup, mustard, relish, onion.) Visit cubicles and sell items. This is a great way to kickoff any sports season. (Tip: you can buy pre-packaged condiments at the Wholesale Club!)



Root Beer Float Sale

Buy necessary ingredients for employees to make their own root beer floats for a donation to United Way. Floats are a fun afternoon treat, and can even be served by executives!



Walking Taco Sale

Sell individual bags of corn chips with pre-divided plastic or foam containers filled with taco meat, cheese, sour cream, tomatoes, lettuce, packets of hot sauce, etc. Price accordingly.



University of Windsor
Annual Soup-Off



LEGEND



**BUDGET
NEEDED**



**LICENCE
COULD BE
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THEMES

Theme's could be for your entire UW campaign, or could be used as a theme day/ week were people buy in to dress up/ participate in activities.

The Big Shot

As a variation on the standard thermometer graph to monitor agency progress use a hypodermic-needle design. Great for health care organizations.

1960's (or another era)

Dress up in "60s" garb. Sell headbands, smiley face pins, tie-dyed shirts.

Wild West

Employees dress in Western clothes. Use a cactus as your thermometer.

Cookie Caper

Each pledge card is passed out with a cookie and the slogan "United Way Cookie Caper – Help us bring in the dough."

Hawaiian

Each person turning in a pledge card gets a plastic lei. At campaign's end, hold a Hawaiian potluck where employees wear their leis and dress Hawaiian. Have a limbo contest. Use a palm tree thermometer.

Mardi Gras

Everyone loves a party, so why not model your campaign after the biggest party in the world – Mardi Gras. Invite a jazz band to play at your kickoff event. Hold a parade, float contest or sell bead-o-grams (beads with thoughtful messages attached.) Host a Cajun potluck.

Beach Bash

Decorate the cafeteria or break room with beach balls, etc. Serve hot dogs and fruit kabobs. Tell everyone to wear their favourite "beach wear" and then vote on the best one. Award prizes for the best outfits.



GSC "Sports" Themed Kickoff 2019



LEGEND

 **BUDGET NEEDED**

 **LICENCE COULD BE NEEDED**

EASY INCENTIVE IDEAS



An incentive at Cavendish - premium parking!



LEGEND



BUDGET
NEEDED



LICENCE
COULD BE
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Free oil change

Gift certificates

Golf with the Boss (their treat)

Lottery Tickets

Lunch with your manager (their treat)

Tickets to a local sporting event

Open soda/ candy machines

Pizza party

Use of company car

Reserved/ Prime parking spaces

Vacation Day

Call in "well" or "sleep in late" coupon

"Flee at 3" coupon

Car started and windows scraped coupon

Car washed by boss/ coworker coupon

Causal Day

Company Promotional items

Free meal/ dessert from company cafeteria