



“FUN”draising Ideas

Tips and tricks to help you raise money for Habitat Orlando

Dollar-an-inch Contest

- Executives participate in a competition to end the day with the shortest tie. Don't forget the ladies! They can wear a tie too!
- Employees cut off an inch of their favorite executive's tie each time they give to Habitat
- Give prizes for the shortest tie, the ugliest tie of the day, etc.

America's Funniest Office Video Party

- Have an employee volunteer to bring in their video camera to take candid video footage.
- Schedule a short meeting in a conference room to show the video to the staff.
- Sell tickets, soda, and popcorn to the event and then donate the proceeds to Habitat.
- If the video is a hit with the employees, maybe even raffle off the video or sell duplicates. It might make a great holiday gift!

Auction Hotline

- Set up a special voicemail box with weekly messages announcing the auction items.
- Outline the items, including their face value in a flyer.
- Employees can call the hotline to record their bids.
- Update the record message daily, announcing the highest bids received to date.
- Each Friday, announce the auction results for the week and introduce next week's items.
- Ask employees to donate items or services to put up for auction.
- The more items to auction, the more fun and money will be raised!

Baby Picture Match Game

- Invite employees to try their luck matching baby and/or pet pictures to pictures of the management.
- Award the entry with the most right answers a prize or some other fun incentive.
- Charge employees two dollars per ballot to participate and raise funds while having a whole lot of fun!

Balloon Pop

- Employees donate prizes for this event (a variation of a traditional raffle).
- Before filling a balloon with helium, put a note inside with the name of the prize.
- Employees pay \$1 to buy a balloon and pop it to find out what prize they have won.

Bingo

- Sell Bingo cards to the employees.
- Schedule a team Bingo game.
- Get the prizes donated for all the winners of Bingo.

“Blue Light Special” Rallies

- Hold daily/weekly “Blue Light Special” Rallies throughout your employee giving time.
- Have different divisions and/or departments host each “Blue Light Special” event.
- Have food available such as pastries, juice or coffee for a breakfast event, or chips and dips with soda and cookies for an afternoon event.
- Have a non-profit organization representative speak about the community services that are available, and relate to the demographic group of employees
- Schedule entertainment by a youth group or a senior group.
- Organize prizes and games to raffle for some additional fun!

Book and Video Sale

- Have employees donate their old books, video’s, CDs, DVDs and cassette tapes for an employee sale.
- Sell all of the items in even amounts from \$1 to \$5, priced much like a garage sale, with even amounts for easy change making.

Bowl-a-Thon

- Have employees pay a \$2 entrance fee to participate in this event.
- Possibly consider gathering pledges in advance and have a contest for the person who gathers the most pledges.
- Give each participant a special pledge form in advance, have employees use it when asking for their support, encourage fan support, fun and enthusiasm!

Casino Night

- Invite the employees and their families to the event.
- Local businesses can donate prizes and items for the winners.
- Some items you will need for the Casino Night include: a few Blackjack tables, one Bingo game, a bean bag toss
- Have various snacks, sandwiches and sodas available.
- Possibly have a cake made to look like a card, or with dice on it for a festive dessert celebration.
- Have festive music to liven the festivities.

Flower Trade

- Have local florists donate flowers that employees can pay \$2 for and send to their co-workers.
- You can also try using the same method with cookies or candy.
- Have the employees bake and donate cookies and candy.
- Have employees send a cookie and note to friends just to say thanks! A great morale builder!

Casual Day

- Sell stickers for casual day to the employees to allow them to dress casually for the amount of stickers purchased.

- You can determine with your marketing materials that \$1.00 means one casual day, or \$5 means one casual day, whichever you decide!
- You can designate certain casual days as “Crazy Days” and encourage employees to show their “wilder” side.
- Examples could be: Tuesday: Stupid Hat Day, Wednesday: Outrageous Sock Day, Thursday: Sports Team Day

Executive Carwash

- Employees donate \$5 to have their car washed at noon by the “boss”.
- Charge extra amounts for things like cleaning the carpets, interior or polishing the rims.
- Take pictures and charge for photos of the employee and the boss washing their car.
- Charge extra for frames for the photographs, or use certificate covers.
- Have employees give their boss directions on how they want their car done.

Children’s Drawing Contest

- Give employees “official photographs” of one or two of the top executives to take home for their children to draw.
- Have children draw a “house” or “what a house being built” means to them.
- Limit the contest to children under 12 who are related to any employee.
- Have the employees pay \$5 per entry of the drawings their children do to enter.
- Employees vote for the best drawing by paying \$1 to vote.
- Give prizes to all participants.
- Display winning portraits as a part of the organization’s permanent art collection.
- A variation of this event is to have employees submit photography, drawings, poetry, etc. that depict people helping people.
- The art form can be any medium.

Chili Cook-Off Contest

- Employees cook their favorite chili recipe and enter it into a cook-off contest.
- This is a great potluck fundraiser.
- Have a group of chili experts (or even get a local chef to volunteer) to judge the chili.
- Give a plaque to the winner of the competition, or ribbons for honorable mention, etc.
- Put a photograph in the employee communication area to let staff know who the “chili champion” of the year is!
- Have employees pay \$1 to sample each chili to raise money.

Candy Kick-Off Rally

- Excite the sweet teeth of your employees when you kick off your campaign.
- Print candy wrappers with the “I Helped Build It” theme of the campaign.
- Wrap the candy with the campaign theme paper as part of the kick-off.

Coin War

- Have each department get an empty jar or water bottle; employees drop their spare dimes, nickels and pennies into the bottle.
- These coins mentioned above are counted as positive; a quarter counts as negative.

- Employees may “sabotage” another department’s water bottler by dropping a quarter into their bottle.
- At the end of the campaign, both positive and negative coins are counted, and the group with the most \$\$\$ raised wins!

Comedy Hour

- Have local comedians volunteer to amuse your employees during their lunch hour.
- Employees buy tickets at attend the comedy hour with all proceeds going to the community.
- Another version would be to have departments compete with their own comedy hour and have a team judge the best group!

Craft and Bake Sale

- Have employees jump-start the holidays by shopping at a craft and bake sale!
- This activity gives everyone a chance to share their hobbies or baking expertise with their fellow employees.
- Have any recipes printed so they share in a recipe swap.

Diversity Events

- Tie in Habitat for Humanity Orlando to the special events in your office.
- An example would be to have a Latin American speaker come talk to the employees during Latin American history month and how Habitat for Humanity impacts the Latin American community.

Employee Cook Book

- Collect and group recipes and helpful household hints into a customized cookbook.
- Have employee’s children create illustrations for the cookbook, including the cover.
- Print or copy and bind the books so they look professional.
- This is usually a very successful program for any group!
- Sell the books for whatever you think you need to, and donate all funds to Habitat for Humanity

Guessing Game

- Collect donations in order for employees to guess the amount of nails or other items in a Jar and give prizes for the right answers.

Employee Raffle

- Ask employees to donate something special for a raffle prize.
- Things for the raffle can be things such as homemade pies, lunch with a co-worker or boss, car wash, tickets to a special event or a day off.
- There can also be prizes for a weekend stay at a vacation cabin, or any donated prizes.
- Employees can make contributions using a raffle donation form.
- The employees turn in a pledge form early to receive three raffle tickets.
- Employees that turn in a pledge forms after the “early” date, but before the final event receive one raffle ticket.

Executive Race

- Set up a relay course for the executives to go through.
- Have them go through on rolling chairs or tricycles.
- Use a stopwatch to time the contestants, with the best time winning a prize.
- Have employees wager on what executive will win the race.

Executive Fantasy Auction

- Have the executives in the organization create “fantasy” packages to auction so the employees can bid on them.
- Packages can include fishing trips, dinner or movie tickets.
- Special services can also be auctioned such as:
 - Cooking the winning bidder a special dish of their choice.
 - Singing at a party or special event.
 - Mowing the winner’s lawn or working in their yard.
 - Babysitting the winner’s children, so mom and dad can have a night out.
 - Washing the winner’s car.
 - Giving a parking space for a specified time period with the employees name marked.

Executive Prison

- Transform the office into a jail cell.
- Round up the prisoners and “arrest” the managers and executives and allow them to make telephone calls to their staff members to “bail” them out.
- All bail money goes to Habitat for Humanity while having some laughs.

Flashback Carnival

- Invite employees to an old fashioned carnival that includes: cakewalks, a bake sale, bubble blowing and hot dogs!
- Hold a hula-hoop contest and a “hoop-shoot” to really give it the flashback flavor!
- Set up a dunk tank that allows all of the executives to get dunked.
- Charge \$3 for three balls.
- Throw pies at all the executives while charging for the pleasure to participate.

Grandma’s “Heart Attack” Chocolate Cake

- Sell your “grand-ma’s” favorite chocolate cake by the slice.
- Give recipes for a donation to anyone interested.
- Give out samples to tempt them.
- Have someone judge the best cake and give a prize.

Halloween Pumpkin Carving Contest

- Plan a Halloween theme and hold a pumpkin carving contest.
- Employees enter carved pumpkins individually or by group.
- Charge \$5 to enter and \$1 to cast a vote for the best pumpkin.
- Award prizes in various categories: best traditional pumpkin, most creative pumpkin, best effort by a group, best effort by an individual
- Have the executives judge the pumpkins and take photos of the winning person/team with their pumpkins and the executives.

- Put the winners in the employee newsletter with their winning entry.

Hawaiian Luau

- Have a mini luau with your team!
- Have tropical decorations to make it festive and add Hawaiian music.
- Serve ham, pineapple upside down cake, and other Hawaiian fare.
- Give each guest a lei to wear and a Hawaiian nametag to make it fun.
- Give prizes to the employees wearing the most outrageous Hawaiian attire.
- Have a non-alcoholic frozen drink bar where the guests can make their own tropical smoothies.

International Foods

- Have employees make their favorite diverse dishes.
- Have them decorate tables and dress in costumes that go with the diverse dishes that they make.
- Have the employees look up information that will be available on the country that they are having food from.
- Hold the event over lunch hour and have the employees purchase tickets that are redeemable for food at the booths.
- Have a panel of celebrity judges award prizes to the best overall participants.

Karaoke Party

- This event can be a great fund raiser as well as an awesome team building opportunity.
- Have participants pay \$2.00 to enter and give them a list of songs and a pledge sheet in advance.
- Have the participants ask the employees to support them by pledging an amount of money.
- At the event, have a big box of funny hats, boas, and other fun costume items that the participants can use.
- Pass a hat at the party to receive even more pledges.
- Another version can be “executive karaoke” where the employees bid to hear the executive of their choice sing, while videotaping the copies to sell.

Laugh Olympics

- Have employees compete in crazy “athletic” events for silly prizes.
- Have participants donate a \$5 fee to enter.
- Have observers wager bets on their favorite entrants.

Lunch Auction

- Have different departments donate lunches to auction every day for a week.
- Use your organizations intercom system, e-mail, or other communication vehicles to temptingly auction the lunches.
- Employees call into a designated number with their bids.
- Another variation of this event is to have the employees pay \$5 for the boss to deliver coffee and muffins to them at their desk/office with all proceeds going to Habitat.

Miniature Golf

- Build a 9-hole golf course featuring slinkys, ramps, water and sand traps around the office that is laid out to test the golfing skills of your employees.
- The lowest score, (which may be decided by a tie breaker), will take home a tacky golfing sport coat.
- Interested twosomes return an entry form, bring a putter the day of the event and pay an appropriate entry fee.
- Suggested fees are: \$25 for twosomes of upper management, \$15 for twosomes of middle management, \$10 for twosomes of all other staff
- Try a golfing in America theme with each hole highlighting a different state or city. (a hole in a Hawaiian volcano, a birdie in Boise, and sand traps in Arizona)

Scavenger Hunts

- Have employees participate in a scavenger hunt that requires them to find unusual items.
- Identify items to search for which are found in all departments in the different offices to demonstrate community knowledge.
- You can also “plant” items that are required for them to find.
- Teams of four pay a group entrance fee.
- If each team member has a different job title, they are automatically awarded 10 bonus points.
- Teams have one hour to accumulate as many points as possible.
- The entire team must be present at the end of one hour.
- If a team arrives late they are assessed a 2 point per minute penalty.
- There should be prizes and photos of the top winning teams!
- Post the winners in the company newsletter.

Spelling Bee

- Hold a spelling bee that charges a \$5 entrance fee.
- Have the observers/audience place \$10 bets on who will win.
- Present the winner with a special “Dan Quayle Spelling Bee” award.

Tailgate Party

- Back a truck into the employee lounge, lower the tailgate and sell football fare (hot dogs, soft drinks, chips and peanuts).
- Play a game of tag or video football with participants donating an entrance fee with observers waging bets.

Ticket Giveaway and Gift Certificates

- Give free tickets to movies, theater productions, amusement centers, and other local attractions for pledge incentives.
- Enter all names of all employees who turn in a pledge form during the first hour following the kick-off into a special drawing.

Trivial Pursuit Match

- Create a pool around the winning team and give all employees who bet on the winners a prize.
- Hold the challenge during a staff meeting.
- Give the event a game show flavor with participants using bicycle horns if the answer is known.

Ugly Tie or Jewelry Contest

- Have all contestants pay a \$5 entrance fee to enter the best awful jewelry or ugly tie contest.
- Place voting boxes at various places around the office and charge \$1 to vote.
- Employees can vote as many times as they like for their favorite.
- Have a parade of all contestants, offering a last chance to vote at the end of the day.
- Circulate the names of the entrants the day before the event so employees can anticipate the voting.
- Bring a Polaroid camera and charge for the photos taken of employees with their favorite contestant.

White Elephant Sale

- Have employees donate unique “White Elephant” gifts that others can buy at affordable prices. This is a great addition to a carnival!

Wine Drawing

- Offer the employees an opportunity to win an assortment of specially selected wines from a number of different wineries.
- Sell tickets for \$1 or 6 for \$5.
- Display the wines in an employee area, presented in a nice basket prior to the drawing.

Host a Party that Benefits Habitat for Humanity

- Instead of gifts, have your guests donate to Habitat for Humanity

Christmas support

- Donate to Habitat instead of office Christmas gift exchange