



## Fundraising Ideas A-Z!

- A** **Ask, ask, ask:** The first step in any successful fundraising campaign is to ask as many people as you know!
- B** **Bag groceries:** Ask your local grocery if you can bag groceries for donations. Make little flyers to give those who donate to let them know their donations support the Epilepsy Foundation.  
**Brown Bag Lunch:** Have employees bring a brown bag lunch to work on designated days and ask them to donate the cost of what they would have spent on lunch to your efforts. Bring in drinks and dessert as an extra thank you for those who support you.
- C** **Car Wash:** Host a car wash at a local gas station with the proceeds supporting your fundraising.  
**Card Sale:** So many people these days love stationary. Invite your friends over for a card making party, buy the supplies and ask for a donation to your efforts. Everyone will have a great time and have something to take home as well!
- D** **Dress Down Day:** This works great for work or private schools. Work with HR (or a principal) to allow peers to wear casual clothes if they donate a designated amount to your fundraising efforts.
- E** **Etiquette Reminders:** Another great idea for work or younger children. For example, fine co-workers a \$1 or \$5 donation to the Epilepsy Foundation for arriving late to meetings, not turning off their cell phones, having side conversations, etc. For kids, have them make smaller donations for forgetting please and thank you or other helpful hints, great way to teach them manners and supporting good causes at the same time!
- F** **Fifty-Fifty Drawings:** Hold a fifty-fifty drawing at work or your church. The winner splits the pot with the Epilepsy Foundation; it's a win-win!
- G** **Guest Bartending:** Friends with your local bartender? Ask him/her to put a sign up on a designated night that says all tips come back to the Epilepsy Foundation. Or talk to a local bar about being a guest bartender for the night for a cut of the profits or cover charge and make sure to promote the night to all of your friends and family!  
**Go Greek:** Contact your local sorority/fraternity chapter and tell them that you are an alum (you might have to prove this with some sort of secret handshake). Ask them if they would do one of their philanthropy events for your cause.
- H** **Hat Day:** Great for schools and companies, allow donors to wear hats on a designated day for a donation of \$1 or \$5. Get even crazier with this idea and encourage creative hats above and beyond a baseball cap, think jester hat or large cowboy hat, to win a prize for craziest hat!



# EPILEPSY FOUNDATION

**Hero Highlight:** In your communication via emails and letters, highlight your personal reason for participating. Many people will care and support you because the cause is close to your heart. Highlight your Hero!

- I** **Ice Cream Social:** Plan to host a social at your work, school or church. Ask all that attend for a donation.
- J** **Jeans Day:** Similar to a Hat Day, allow those who donate to wear jeans on a designated day. Maybe you can get some larger donations for those who don Canadian Tuxedos (a denim jacket and jeans)!
- K** **Karaoke Tournament:** Charge an entry fee and host a karaoke tournament at your house. Karaoke machines are available to rent and make a fun night out of it! Voting is done in dollars, so those who attend can make sure they win by donating the most!
- L** **Letter Writing:** Another key aspect of fundraising is the letter or email campaign. Draft a letter that shares your reason for fundraising for the Epilepsy Foundation as well as information about Epilepsy and your personal fundraising link and send it out to everyone in your network.  
  
**Lunch with the Boss:** Employees who make a donation to FARE are entered into a drawing for a lunch with a top level executive.
- M** **Matching Gifts:** Many companies already have a matching gifts program. Is your company one of them? Ask all who donate to you to check with their HR departments as well to see if their donation is also eligible. This is a very simple way to double your donations!
- N** **Night Out:** Offer to babysit a few families in the neighborhood so that all the parents can go out together. Charge your normal rate, but tell the families that you are donating the amount to your fundraising efforts; they might be more generous when they hear about your participation.
- O** **Open House:** Invite all your friends over for an easy open house. Have board games, appetizers and drinks available and tell them all about the Epilepsy Foundation's mission and why you are fundraising in their behalf. Make sure you not only encourage them to donate, but also ask them if they would like to join your team!
- P** **Penny Wars:** Put a jar out for each department in your office (or each grade at a school). For every penny that is in there you have to subtract one point. For all the silver coins you add one point. Do this for a week and reward the department with the highest total.  
  
**Pampered Chef:** Do you know someone who sells Pampered Chef (or Mary Kay, Stella & Dot, etc.)? Host a party at your house and ask the seller to donate a designated amount of their sales from that night back to your fundraising efforts.
- Q** **Quizmaster:** Ask a local bar or restaurant to host a Trivia Night. Invite all your family and friends and have teams entered for a fee. See if you can get the venue to donate a gift card for the winner or a percentage of the proceeds from your guests as well!



# EPILEPSY FOUNDATION

- R** **Rose Sale:** Purchase roses from a wholesale florist and ask if you can sell them outside your church, grocery store, etc. around Valentine's Day or Mother's Day. Make sure you have plenty of signage to let those who buy the flowers know they are supporting a great cause, the Epilepsy Foundation!  
**Restaurant Night:** Approach your favorite restaurant and ask them to host a "Donate the Proceeds" night to support the Epilepsy Foundation. Agree that they will donate a designated percentage of their sales from that evening and make sure you let everyone know when and where it is happening!
- S** **Shave for a Good Cause:** Ask a family member or friend, or community celebrity, if they will shave their head, or beard, if you are able to raise a certain amount. Spread the word and host a party when you hit that amount and the shaving occurs!
- Shoot Out:** Get the guys involved and reach out to community sports leagues to host a shoot-out tournament. Secure local companies that will make a donation to match different player's efforts on the court. Basketball, hockey, see what other sports you can get involved!
- T** **Team Pride Day:** For a donation, employees or students can wear the jersey of their favorite team on a designated day. Secure a prize for the most unique jersey, Gaelic football anyone?
- U** **Ugly Sweater Party:** Host an ugly sweater party at your house. Encourage everyone to wear the most heinous sweater they can find. Voting is done in dollars. Whoever is wearing the sweater that gets the most votes in dollars wins a special prize, but all the money comes back to your efforts!
- V** **Volunteer Your Time:** Turn any job you would typically charge for into a fundraiser. Babysitting, house-sitting, snowplowing, dog walking, etc. Get creative, we're sure you can think of something that you are normally doing that others would offer to donate to you cause as a trade!
- Volleyball Tournament:** Host a volleyball tournament and charge a fee for all teams that enter. Don't play volleyball when then try kickball, softball, any sport, card game, etc! It's a great reason to get a group together and have some fun. Make sure everyone who participates is aware that they are supporting a wonderful cause!
- W** **Wine & Cheese Party:** Lots of wine stores will host wine tastings with proceeds going toward your fundraising efforts. Can't secure a store do so, well then see if any stores will donate a few bottles and host a party of your own for a fee!
- X** **Xtra Change:** Put out a jar at work and at home (or ask a few local businesses to put a jar near their register) and collect your spare change. You'd be surprised how fast the dollars will add up. Make sure to label the jar with your story or team name so those who donate know where their money is going!
- Y** **Yard Work:** Offer to do the yard work of your neighbors for a donation. Charge designated amounts for different projects, mowing the lawn, raking the leaves, trimming hedges, etc.
- Z** **Zumbathon:** Ask your local gym if they will host a Zumbathon, spinning or kickboxing classes to support your fundraising efforts. Spread the word to your community and watch the dollars add up! Encourage healthy lifestyles at the same time!

What else can you think of? We know there are hundreds of more ideas out there so be creative!