

Twenty Top fundraising ideas

1. **Never miss an opportunity:** Now is not the time to be shy. Ask everyone. Take this opportunity to promote Rescue Village and why it is so important to you and the community.
2. **Advertise while you walk:** Ask local companies to sponsor your effort and in return you'll wear their company logo on shirt during Woofstock 2011
3. **Spare Change:** Ask your favorite restaurant or local pub to put out a jar for donations of spare change. Decorate it with quotes & pictures. Anything to get someone's attention.
4. **Delegate:** Give 10 friends 10 donation forms and ask them to get donations for you.
5. **"Sit" for Donations:** Baby-sit, pet-sit, house-sit. Offer services to the neighbors to get them involved
6. **Coins:** Go to your local mall or shopping center and ask what they do with the coins in the fountain.
7. **Lemonade, anyone?:** Have a yard sale with a lemonade stand, or just a lemonade stand. This is a great way to get your children involved.
8. **Benefit night at a local restaurant:** Check in with your favorite local hangouts. Many restaurants already have programs in place to help you fundraise at their establishment. Be a guest bartender? You can donate your tips from the day!
9. **Garage Sale:** Ask all of your friends and neighbors to participate by donating items for sale. Add a bake sale and a straight donation jar. Even if somebody doesn't purchase anything from the sale, they may be willing to make a donation before they leave.
10. **Car Wash:** Hold a car wash—either in your neighborhood, at your place of worship, or at your place of business.
11. **Used Book Sale:** A more focused and versatile version of a garage sale. Ask everyone you know (co-workers, neighbors, family and friends) to donate any books they have read and are finished with. Choose a time and place to have a used book sale—maybe your local farmer's market, school carnival or community fair.
12. **Movie Party:** Host a movie party at your house. Pick a "key" word. Every time the "key" word is said in the movie, everyone antes up \$1 in a donation bowl. Have pizza donated and ask for a suggested donation at the door.
13. **Pet Birthday Party:** Have a fun birthday party for your pet—or a friend's pet. Serve dog biscuits and ask everyone to wear ears! Ask for a suggested donation at the door. Take photos of your guests with the guest of honor.
14. **Sweets Party:** Have a dessert auction at work! Ask local restaurants, bakeries and groceries to donate yummy desserts. Post signs at work well in advance, and then bring all of the desserts in to work on Friday. Hold a silent or live auction—who doesn't need dessert for the weekend?
15. **50/50 Raffle:** Sell tickets to a 50/50 raffle at a large event or gathering. The prize is half the "pot." The winner splits the "pot" with you—you get 50% of the proceeds and they get the other 50%. See if your boss will let you conduct a 50/50 raffle once a month at work.
16. **Signing Your Correspondence:** Get in the habit of signing your correspondence with your name followed by your Participant ID number. You'll be surprised at how many people will ask you what it means. You can use this method for letters and emails.
17. **Voicemail:** Change your voicemail and answering machine messages to announce the fact that you are raising funds for Rescue Village. This will be news to some and a reminder for all!
18. **Use Your Talent:** Offer any talent or skill that you have for a minimum donation; graphic design, massage, hair stylist, make-up stylist, photography, computer skills, sewing, music, baking, cake decorating, etc. Ask talented friends to donate their skills to your fundraising effort. Tie-in ideas with holidays, celebrations and party themes (wedding makeovers, baking party, holiday portraits).
19. **Corporate Matching:** Take advantage of corporate matching gifts programs. Many of your donors may work for companies that have a program like this—their donation could double simply by filling out a form from their Human Resources department and following the steps to submit a matching gift.
20. **Check-Out Donation:** Make up dog bone donation cards and ask a local store or a favorite restaurant to sell them at the register. People can make a donation as they make their purchases, sign their name. The store then hangs the donation cards around the registers and windows.