

# BOWL FOR KIDS' SAKE

## *Fundraising Tips from Past Participants*

### **Start Early**

- "Starting early is really important, I'd bring it up in conversation periodically and ask if they'd like to donate. Also, send out personal e-mails rather than a mass e-mail." - Grady Richartz (Greater Menomonee Area Young Professionals)

### **Don't be afraid to ask**

- "We contact friends, family, co-workers and people we work with outside of the office on a daily basis (attorneys we work with). We keep thinking of new people and ask anyways. You can't be embarrassed about it. If they don't (give), they don't (give)." -Yvonne Kraimer (Eau Claire County)
- "Just don't be afraid to ask people and/or businesses. It's all for a good cause." - Dustin Peterson

### **Team communication is key**

- We get our team together in advance to plan a theme and costumes for the event. We did things to raise funds individually and as a group. In the past, we've put a change jar around the office (by the vending machine for extra change), brought in baked goods so people could donate money in exchange for them, and we also put up flyers on bulletin boards and then a big thank you note after the event. " -Kristy Martin (Nestle)
- "Encouraged my team mates to use the online system and sent a few emails to motivate my team to keep on raising money. The prizes at the \$1,000 level helped me motivate my team.
- "Set up an incentive. Do not procrastinate on fundraising. Communicate more within a team and talk about who has fundraised what so your team knows how much money you are raising as you go. (So it is not a shocker at the end, like 'oh man we could have raised \$50 more each to get \$1,000.)"

### **Do small fundraisers at work**

- "15 people from the 911 division participate in a bake sale at the Eau Claire County Courthouse. In 2009 they raised \$320, enough for every person on their team to receive \$60 towards their pledges." -Dena Clark (911—Your Life is in Our Hands)
- "Last year one team held a bake sale, made jewelry, and assembled a basket raffle. All of the proceeds benefited a great cause, kids in our community." -Brian Roeker (Group Health Cooperative of Eau Claire)
- "We held a great fundraiser at work. Jeans for a day cost \$5, breakfast for a day costs \$5, but if you do both we discounted to \$8."

### **Include a fundraiser with a garage sale or other activity you're already doing**

- "My team had a bake sale at a garage sale my fiancé and I were having. You would be surprised how many people wouldn't buy stuff, but they would buy treats or leave a donation!" - Brooke Seal (Sacred Heart)

### **Break it Down**

- "Be persistent! I emailed friends and family weekly (as well as posted via Facebook) with my progress and how much I still needed to get to my goal. I also broke my total goal down into smaller pieces. i.e. my goal was \$250, so I said I only needed 10 people to donate \$25 or 25 people to donate \$10."

### **Online Fundraising**

- "Set up the account online and email your family, friends, and work associates—then send out thank you's and send the entire group a couple of reminders."

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## *Other Fundraising Ideas*

### **Host a fundraising event with your team to raise money! Some ideas are:**

- *Hold a concert at a local bar*—Ask a local band to donate their time and charge a cover charge and use the proceeds for your team.
- *Wii Bowling Tournament*—Charge an entry fee and give a portion of the fees to the winner and keep the rest as a donation for your team.
- *Car Wash*
- *Guitar Hero or Rock Band Competition*—Charge an entry fee and the winner receives a portion of the entry fee.

### **Raise money at work to have your team members dress up at work or do something funny (that your co-workers would pay to see).**

### **Sell something at work. Some ideas are:**

- Paper bowling pins
- Candy
- Baked Goods
- Jewelry or other homemade crafts
- Cards
- 'Make your own' Ice Cream Sundae
- Soda, Water or Juice (i.e. charge \$1.50 per bottle and keep the proceeds for a donation to your team)

### **Make a large thermometer with your team's goal on it.** Update it as you raise money. This is a great way for everyone to see how close you are to your goal.

### **Host a unique sports event.**

- *Power Puff game*—Spectators pay a small donation.
- *Small basketball tournament*
- *Tennis tournament*

### **Create unique shirts for your team and 'sell spots' on your t-shirts.**

For example, for every \$25 received you'll list someone's name on your shirts and for every \$100 donation they will get their name twice as big.

### **Snow Removal**

Offer to shovel or snow blow neighbor's driveway's for a donation to your Bowl for Kids' Sake team.

### **Serve Lunch/Breakfast**

Cater in (or have your team members each make something) and sell 'meals'. Charge enough to cover your costs and earn money for your team. Some examples are:

- *Chili*—team members could donate the costs of the supplies, bread, crackers, and condiments (by splitting up the costs) and charge \$5-8 per person.
- *Burrachos, Famous Dave's, etc.*—Bring in a special treat. Cover the cost per person for the catering and add additional on for the donation.