

Fundraising Ideas for Camps!

Edmund Rice Camps is registered with the online fundraising website Everyday Hero. This website makes the process of fundraising really easy, online. It works especially well for sponsored events or campaigns such as -a-thons, polar bear swims or Lock Ups.

<http://www.everydayhero.com.au/charity/view?charity=1496>.

Shave your Do you have waist long hair, dreads that are your pride and joy, a killer moustache/ beard? Considering shaving, cutting it off to raise funds for camps. As a sponsored event friends, family, work mates etc pay for you to shave.

Lets Celebrate! – Are you having a birthday, wedding, any excuse to party? Consider asking your guests to donate to ERC in a wishing well (at the event) or a Hero page (online) instead of gifts.

Who gives to the community? – Does your workplace hold a monthly lunch in support of a charity? Does your local burger place have sign up asking for charity nominations to win a prize? Did you see something in the local paper about nominations for a great cause? Keep your eyes out for opportunities –hundreds of eyes out there searching for \$\$ and we will find every opportunity!

Dress Up Day – An oldie but a goody for any school or organisation that has a uniform or strict dress code. Pick a day and invite everyone to come to school/work in a themed alternative. Eg. Irish day, Halloween, fairy tales, crazy hat, double denim – etc. Anyone who comes dressed up has to pay a fee. Add to this with a fashion parade of the best outfits and perhaps a prize for the best dressed. As an added fundraiser have a photo booth (set), take photos and sell prints (or mail copies) for an extra fee.

Ugly Tie (Hat, scarf, shirt, shoes....) Contest.

A cute and quick fundraiser is to hold an “Ugliest Tie Contest”. This fundraiser is almost 100% pure profit; all participants have to pay a fee. Have a prize for the best (ugliest tie), fantastic if this could be donated by a local business. Make sure you have the camera ready for the great shots for the website or newsletter!

Pizza Night/ Lunch – make and sell pizzas for collection on Friday after school or after work. An alternative is to order and collect pizzas from the local store and sell slices at lunch-time (you can mark up the pizzas by as much as 200%).

Pancake Breakfast

The idea of a pancake breakfast fundraiser is simple. Like a sausage sizzle you make pancakes to order on a BBQ before school/ work. You can also sell other breakfast items such as coffee, juice, bacon and egg rolls etc. If you have someone or a team with catering experience to help with forecasting how much to buy and ensure that safe food handling is carried out this is big bonus! The whole point of the event is to raise money, so make sure you factor in the cost of equipment, supplies, rental fees and food before setting the price for tickets. To allay some of the costs, seek donations from local businesses. A grocery store may be willing to supply some of the cooking ingredients such as pancake mix, eggs, syrup and milk.



Picnic Lunch Auction – This is an old fashioned fundraiser. Participants make a yummy packed lunch and place it up for auction. In times gone by the ladies of the community made the lunches, and the gentlemen bid on them, the winner not only secured a lunch but also the company of the lady while they dined together... in more modern times it is important to be aware of allergies or intolerances.

Lock Up – Have the boss or principal “arrested” and placed in a public jail (a shop front window) he/she needs to make a phone calls to reach a certain level of donations to be released. Students/ employees can make donations to a keep him/her locked up fund!

Movie Night – Outdoor Cinema night or indoor movie night. A ticketed event, fundraising can also be done on the sale of concession items such as pizza, hot dogs, popcorn, soft drinks, etc. There are some great outdoor cinema services available to allow you to create a fantastic family event.
<http://www.outdoormovies.com.au>

Dog Wash

Fundraising with a dog wash is a popular event it can run all day long, or just for half-a-day. The idea is that dog owners come and get their dogs washed by volunteers, in exchange for a set charge or donation.

The dog wash often takes place in a parking lot, where an area is roped off for the event, water will be needed. The event is best in a warm season, so that the dogs do not get cold when wet and this also means that some form of sun shading, such as a tent, may be needed for the helpers. You will need several hoses with sprays and/or buckets, pet shampoo, and a plentiful supply of towels to dry the animals and a good group of dog confident volunteers. Volunteers will also staff a registration/information table and take the money.

To make this event a success requires good publicity, with local newspapers and radio stations involved and perhaps signs on the street. Often a radio station will have a publicity van from which outside broadcasts are made. As the van is usually parked at a different location each day, the station may be interested in covering the event and attracting customers.

Car Wash

Similar to the dog wash but with cars!

Polar Bear Plunge

Want to raise some money and get some publicity for your school or business? Have a polar bear plunge! This fundraiser will only work when the weather is cold, so it's not for every location. A polar bear plunge means, quite simply, that people don bathing suits in biting cold weather and dive into the ocean or (un-heated!) outdoor pool. It's an event in which there is no limit on the number of people who can participate. It's also a great way to inspire competition between different groups, best dressed, who raised the most funds, etc.
As an added fundraiser, sell hot-chocolate or other warming items to the spectators!



Rubber Duck Race

A rubber duck race is a fun and unique fundraising idea. Not only will you raise some money, but everyone will have a great time. A duck race fundraiser does require a small investment as well as a time commitment, but the payoff will be well worth it, both financially and for the added publicity that is possible.

Rubber ducks are "sold" to participants who then write their name and phone number on each duck they purchase. Be sure to use waterproof ink! Then, the ducks are placed on a river, pond or, as a last resort, in a large pool. The duck that reaches a predetermined finish line first is the winner, and the person who bought that duck wins a prize. If you plan to use a river or pond, you should check with your town or city officials to see if you need to obtain a permit. It may also be a good idea to do a test run with a few dozen ducks in order to determine the finish line. You don't want to declare a finish line that is impossible for the ducks to reach on their own!

Next, you will need to determine what the prize (or prizes) will be. Often, local businesses will be happy to sponsor such a fundraising event by donating goods or services as a prize.

Sand Castle Sculpture competition

An alternative on an art competition. You charge an entry fee for teams or individuals. You can also charge (or shake a donation tin) spectators. You may want to check with the local government about the reservation of beach space or park space to hold your contest.

One of the best ways to get people excited about a sand/snow sculpture is to either find someone that gives lessons or can build a work of art. This draws people because they not only get to meet the person that is so good, but also learn a few things. Lessons are another great way to raise funds, the artist may even donate their skills and time if you ask.

Disconnect to reCONNECT

A sponsored event. Can you go off line for a weekend? You can set the level of what your group is going to give up. In addition you can set a list of alternative activities that need to be completed, eg: play a board game, attend a community event, write a letter (and post it!) etc. Tailor it to your group make it challenging but achievable!

What next?

If you would like to host an event on our behalf, please gives a call or email and we will talk through how we can help you out. We can provide an "authority to fundraise" letter which lets people know that you are "officially fundraising for ERC and can help you gather donated prizes and etc.

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