



UNITED WAY OF SOUTHEAST IOWA
a century of service

Here is a list of creative and dynamic fundraising ideas for your organization's United Way campaign! What better way to start your campaign, engage your employees, and build support for the **United Way of Southeast Iowa** (and in turn, area organizations) than to use fun activities for your kickoff! Thank you for your support.

VIRTUAL ACTIVITIES:

- **Virtual "Chopped" Challenge** - People pay to participate, film themselves receiving their set of ingredients and film their process using the specified ingredients to make a finished dish.
- **Virtual Game Night** (<https://www.countryliving.com/.../virtual-game-night-ideas/>)
- **Virtual Workout Class**
- **Crafternoon** - Lead an afternoon crafting class. Materials can be digital or they can be delivered to employees in a contactless manner.
- **Virtual "Nailed It"**
- **Online Tutorial** - Have staff with a hidden talent or skill (ex. language class, public speaking class, cooking class) teach the rest of the group.
- **Virtual Book Club** - Employees donate what they would have spent on snacks/drinks for the in-person book club (this is also great for teambuilding).
- **Coronavirus Swear Jar** - Donation of \$1 every time the virus/crisis is mentioned (outside of necessary mention).
- **Virtual Open Mic or Karaoke Night**
- **At Home Painting Party** (<https://www.paintingwithatwist.com/pages/twist-at-home/>)
- **The Challenge** - Test team skills, endurance and aptitude with a games tournament. Teams can register to compete in different challenges with the top scorers winning a prize (possibly sponsored by a local business)
- **Virtual Bingo** - Create digital bingo cards at <https://myfreebingocards.com> which can be designed and pushed out to individuals with a drawing each day. Winners receive a prize.
- **"Apples Against Humanity"** - Send out an email to all staff with a word or phrase and people respond with their best .gif or meme that summarizes the phrase. Winner receives a prize.
- **Stream a Video Game Tournament** - Pick a video game that participants can play online together and host a tournament to raise money for your cause. Players can pay an upfront cost to enter the tournament with a bracket to determine the champion. Then, to help spread awareness, stream the tournament on Twitch so people can tune in and catch all the action in real-time. (Consider choosing a cross-platform game so people can participate no matter what console or gaming platform they have.)
- **Zoom Costume or Room/Office Decorating Contest**
- **Trivia or Riddles Via Email** (Bonus for United Way-Themed Trivia!)
- **Kahoot** - Interactive learning, presentations, training, company culture and events (kahoot.com/business).
- **Step Competition**

IN-PERSON ACTIVITIES:

- **Desert or Bakery Cart**
- **Craft and Bake Sales**
- **Chili Cook-Off Contest**
- **Balloon Pop**
- **Department Penny Wars**
- **Employee Cook Book**
- **50/50 Raffle**
- **Pumpkin Carving / Decorating or Ornament Decorating Contest**
- **Bingo**
- **Ugly Lamp** - Employees decorate a lamp and make it as ugly as possible. Employees have to pay \$5 to have it removed from their desk and put on another co-worker's desk.
- **Flowers** - Work with a local florist to donate flowers that employees buy to take home to their loved ones
- **Spelling bee**
- **Pie in the Face**
- **Walking Tacos or Special Food Fundraiser**
- **Sports Team Day**
- **Jeans Day**
- **Talent Show or Karaoke Contest**
- **Lunch Box Auction** - Employees wishing to participate pack a special lunch box. Encourage them to get creative and make deluxe sandwiches or wraps including delicious treats like brownies or cookies. The lunches are then auctioned off before lunch.
- **Popcorn Sales**
- **Egg Baby** - A single egg is given to each staff member who must treat the egg with care. They may choose to keep it all day long, or pass it to another coworker to babysit for \$2. If dropped, a \$5 hospital fee is applied.
- **Cake Walk**
- **Balloon Bonanza** - Employees pay for balloons which are blown up and deposited in the office of a coworker of their choice. If a person wishes to rid their office of balloons, they can pay to have them removed and deposited into another coworker's office.
- **Potluck Luncheon** - Everyone brings food and pays \$5 to participate
- **Putt Putt Contest** - Design and set up your own wacky mini golf course within your office, lobby or work area. Charge each person to play, and award a prize to the player with the lowest score.
- **Paper Airplane Contest** - Charge a fee per piece of paper to make a plane and award the plane that flies the longest distance.
- **Baby or Pet Picture Match** - Invite employees to try their luck at matching baby or pet pictures with employees or management. Award the person with the most correct answers with a jeans day or other fun incentive. Charge per ballot.
- **Shave the Boss** - Have the CEO or management challenge the staff to raise a certain amount, if they meet that threshold, they get to shave the head or face of that person.
- **Obstacle Course** - Set up an obstacle course for executives to go through either on a tricycle or office chair. Let employees bet on the winners. Try the same thing with remote controlled cars!
- **Minute To Win It Games**
- **Clothespin Activity** - Glue a fun logo or picture on to several clothespins and pin them on people. If you get pinned throughout the day, you must put \$1 into a jar.
- **Cookie Decorating Contest** - Have participants purchase large sugar cookies and decorate them. Give awards for most creative, most appetizing, etc.
- **Photo Scavenger Hunt** - Have employees pay to play, break into teams and embark on a scavenger hunt around town (bonus points for United Way partner agencies!)