

Tools to Help You in Your Fundraising Efforts



Fundraising Event Ideas

Organize and hold fund raisers to bring in the donations!

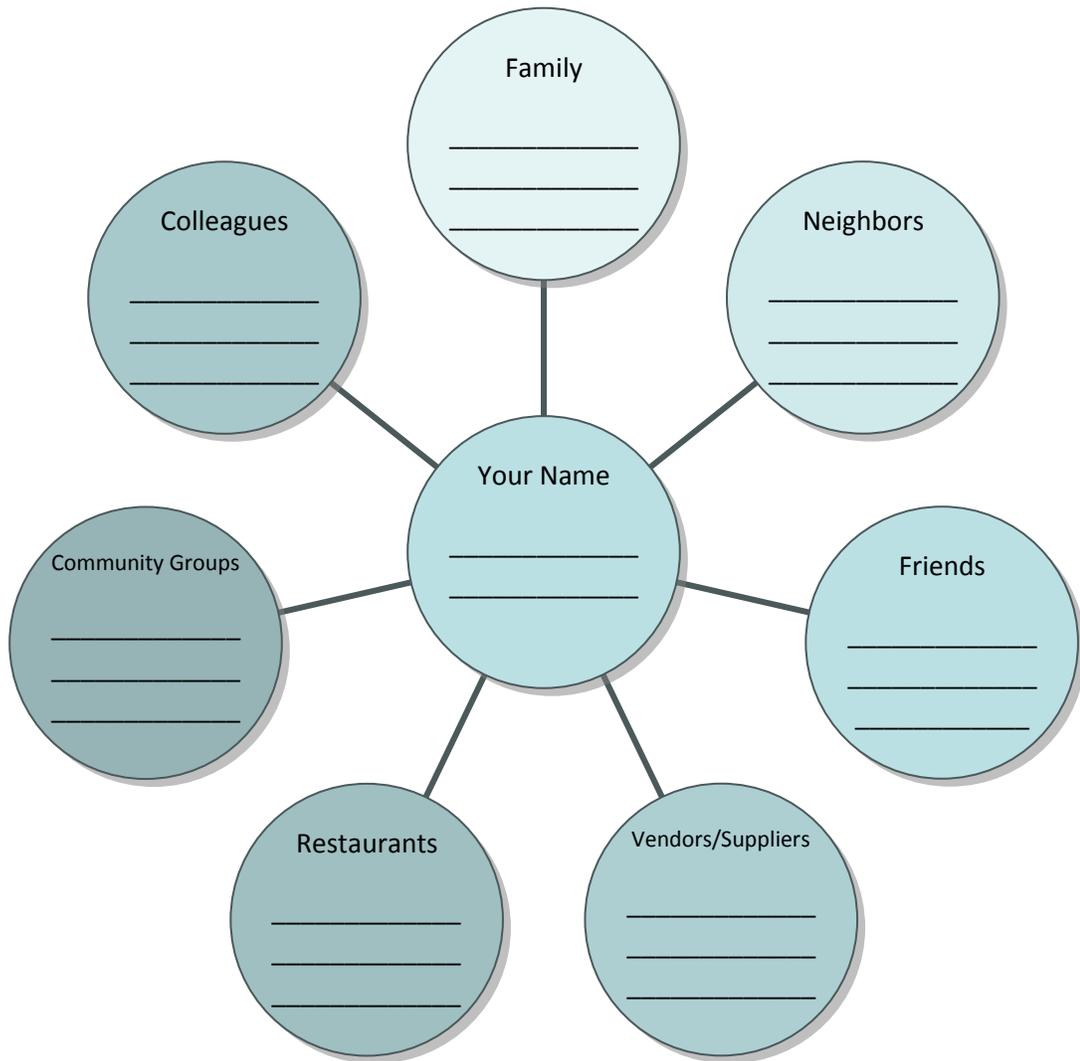
Be sure to gain approval, if necessary, from your school administration prior to any fundraising event.

- ❖ **Dress Down Days** – Organize a dress down day where students and teachers pay a nominal fee to wear casual clothing for the day. Or better yet, make it a Spirit Day where everyone has to wear a funny hat or wear a certain color.
- ❖ **Penny Wars** – Set up a challenge for your work to collect the most points (pennies). Points are given for pennies and negative points for silver coins and cash. Others can sabotage by placing money other than pennies in the jars. The worker, office, floor, etc. with the most points wins lunch at the loser's expense. All money in the jars is donated for the Plunge.
- ❖ **Snack Bar** – Purchase snacks in bulk at Costco or BJ's to sell in the teacher's lounge or at a sporting event. Healthy snacks can be very popular -OR- make it fun and sell ice cream to get people in the polar-inspired spirit.
- ❖ **Dessert Auction** – Ask for donations of baked goods. Label each dessert with the name of the dessert and the cook. Ask your team's most humorous and charismatic person to be the auctioneer who can entertain the crowd and boost the auction prices.
- ❖ **Trivia Night** – Find a location to host your team and guests. See if a local restaurant will host a trivia night with your group. Guests split into several small teams to answer trivia asked by a host and the winners are the team which, at the end of the night, has correctly answered the most questions. Funds are raised through entry tickets, food sales, etc.
- ❖ **Auction (Silent or Live)** – Hold the event at your business, in your neighborhood, or church. Ask for contributions of unique items such as homemade toys, art, quilts, knitting, etc. Display items prior to event with description.
- ❖ **Bake Sale** – Hold a Friday bake sale at work so employees will have treats for the weekend. Make sure to individually wrap items for individual sale.
- ❖ **Restaurant to the Rescue** – Ask a local restaurant or café to contribute a portion of the proceeds for a day. It could even be a special menu item. Create a sign letting patrons know that the owner will donate half the money if purchased.
- ❖ **Pennies from Heaven** – did you know that one milk jug full of pennies weighs 35 lbs? And did you know that 30 lbs of pennies is equal to \$50? Collect pennies – sit out jars, ask neighbors, etc.

The key to building a Plunge Team and successful fundraising campaign both depend on asking people you know for support. Think about everyone whose lives you touch and ask them to join your team or make a donation.

Your list can be overwhelming, so use this chart to help you identify people that you know and organize them into categories. Start with the easiest people to reach – your family and friends. Next ask acquaintances and service providers.

Before you know it, you will have a complete list of people that you know!



SAMPLE DONATION REQUEST LETTER/E-MAIL

Dear [Insert Name]:

I am writing to ask for your help. On December 1, 2017, I have committed to grin and “bear it for the athletes of Special Olympics Pennsylvania by taking a dip into an icy pool at Drexel University’s Recreation Center alongside hundreds of other warm-hearted people.

I know – you’re probably getting cold just thinking about it! But the cold that I will feel is temporary...the positive impact that will have on the lives of thousands of individuals with intellectual disabilities will last a lifetime.

I have set a personal fundraising goal of \$[insert amount], and I need your help to reach it! So no, I’m not asking you to take the Plunge alongside me, but instead, I am asking if you will make a donation to Special Olympics Pennsylvania on behalf of me taking the 2017 Polar Plunge. Any amount would be appreciated because it goes to a wonderful cause, and every little bit gets me that much closer to my goal.

In order to support my Plunge, please make your check payable to “Special Olympics Pennsylvania” and return it to me in the envelope I have provided, or you can mail it directly to their office at Special Olympics Pennsylvania, 2570 Blvd. of the Generals, Suite 124, Norristown, PA 19403. If you mail a check directly to them, please be sure to include my name in the memo area so that the staff will know where to credit the contribution.

Or, if you prefer the web, visit the [Philadelphia Polar Plunge registration page](#) and click “Donate”. As you type in my name, my name should appear. Click on my name and select the amount you would like to donate. Fill in the required fields and you’ll be all set!

If you want to learn more about this spectacular winter event, visit www.PlungePA.org to find out all of the chilly details. Think warm thoughts for me and my fellow plungers as December 1st approaches. I will do my best to honor my “Pledge to Freeze” and make my supporters proud!

Thank you!!!

[Plunger Name]

Ask Cards



Please support my Pledge!

To make a donation to my fundraising efforts, visit:
www.plungepa.org and click "Sponsor a Plunger"
Thank you for helping me support the athletes of
Special Olympics Pennsylvania!

Plunger Name



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Plunger Name

Special Olympics PA Polar Plunge Receipts

Special Olympics Pennsylvania Polar Plunge Receipt
Name: _____
Address: _____

Amount: \$ _____ Date: _____
Plunger Name: _____
Paid by: ___ Cash ___ Check
Thank you for your donation. SOPA is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt public charity. Your donation is 100% tax deductible.

Special Olympics Pennsylvania Polar Plunge Receipt
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