



## Fund Raising Ideas A thru Z

- A. **Ask Everyone to Make a Donation:** Friends, neighbors, relatives, and co-workers. Explain your commitment to the event, your involvement in the past and why the event is special to you.
- B. **Bake Sales:** Hold a bake sale at work or a busy place.
- Bead Sale:** A bead sale can net you as much as \$80.00 per strand when sold at a per bead price. This does require you to purchase the beads up front and then selling them.
- Book Sale:** Have co-workers, friends and relatives donate used books and sell them at work, church or a high traffic area.
- C. **Car Wash:** this is a great and easy money maker, as well as fun! Charge a flat rate or ask for a donation. Be sure to wear your Walk T-shirt and tell everyone thank you for supporting the event.
- Chinese Auction:** Have each department at work create a basket with a theme and then sell tickets to drop in a bucket placed in front of each basket.
- Change Challenge:** Place containers in each classroom/department. Have people put change in every day and by a set date whoever collects the most money is the winner. Or a variation is whoever collects the least money by a certain date so you put change in other containers.
- D. **Dance or Dance Marathon:** Hold a school dance and donate the entrance fee to the Walk. Or hold a dance marathon with a special theme. Encourage all students to raise money and make it a fun evening.
- E. **Email:** Email everyone in your address book and ask them for a donation. Use our new web-site to create your own page or a heartfelt note explaining why this is important to you will do the trick.
- F. **Facebook:** Use your social networking skills to raise money for your team. Download the widget to your facebook page and post to your status. Your total will raise in no time.
- Fifty-Fifty Drawings:** Hold a fifty-fifty drawing at your place of business weekly or monthly. The winner splits the money with Autism Speaks. It's a win-win for all.

- G. **Garage Sales:** Use this opportunity to clean out your attic or basement and hold a garage sale individually or with your neighbors.
- H. **Hat Day:** For a \$1 donation, students/co-workers can be allowed to wear hats to school/office. Encourage wacky hat day but get permission first.
- I. **Ice Cream Social:** Plan to hold a social at work or school. Ask for donations from all who attend.
- J. **Jeans Day:** Co-workers pay a designated amount to wear jeans on a Friday.
- K. **Kiss the Pig Contest:** Recruit a teacher or local celebrity to kiss a pig or team mascot once a certain amount of money is raised.
- L. **Letter Writing:** Write a letter to everyone you know asking for a donation or specific amount. Be sure to explain why you are doing the walk and your own personal goal.
- M. **Matching Gifts:** Ask your company, teacher, boss, etc. to match the money you personally raise. Some companies already have a matching gift program; see if your company does.
- N. **Narcissus Sale (Or any other flower):** Take pre-orders and buy in bulk from a distributor.
- O. **Odd Jobs:** Call neighbors and ask to do some odd jobs, such as painting, cleaning, dog walking, house-sitting and tell them all money is going to the Walk.
- P. **Plushland Teddy Bears:** Purchase these adorable bears or any other animal and help raise money for your team. Contact the chapter office for details.  
  
**Popcorn Sale:** Popcorn always smells so yummy. Pop and sell at work, or school.  
  
**Potluck Lunch/Dinner:** Co-workers donate a favorite dish and sell tickets for \$5.
- Q. **Questions for a Buck:** One team raised money by having their boss, who was constantly being asked questions, charge \$1 for each question for a designated time period.
- R. **Roll those Pennies:** Roll pennies that are around the house and donate.
- S. **Shave your Head:** Shave a willing participants head once a specified amount of money has been raised.
- T. **Tribute Trail Signs:** Honor a loved one with a tribute trail sign. Secure a donation from your team, sponsor or yourself!  
  
**Turkey Raffle:** Raffle a donated turkey off during the holidays or after.
- U. **Ugly Bartender Contest:** Get local bartenders in town to agree to be in your “Ugly Bartender Contest”. For a \$1 vote, a lot of money can be raised for your team. The winner gets some kind of reward and is asked to be an honorary team member.

- V. **Video Sales:** Hold a video sale at work or school. Have team members bring in videos they no longer watch. Kid videos are especially great ones. Hold the sale during lunch or in the evening.

**Viral Video:** Log into your walk headquarters and personalize the viral video. Load in your email address book and hit send! A great way to add a unique touch to your fundraising message.

- W. **Wear Company Logos:** For a fee of \$25 tell companies that you will wear their hat or T-shirt for one half hour during the walk.

- X. **Xylophone Concert:** Hold a music concert or recital. Pass out refreshments and a donation can or sell tickets in advance.

- Y. **Yard Work:** Ask the neighbors if you can rake their leaves or pull weeds. Donate the money to your team.

- Z. **Zumbathon:** How about a Zumba Marathon? Collect pledges for every hour danced by participants. Get fit and support Autism Speaks!

\*\* Autism Speaks requests that teams carefully consider their fund-raising efforts.

During the planning of any event, ask these questions:

Is it ethical?

Is it offensive to ANY group?

What is the financial risk/outcome?

Do we have unanswered questions or concerns? Do you need materials?

Call the chapter office at 224-567-8573.