

HOW TO RAISE \$1000

You've registered to go Over The Edge, you have the date circled on your calendar, now what? Start fundraising today! Before you know it, you will have your \$1000 raised and be on your way to the top!

Know your Facts!

Make sure you're able to talk about our mission in terms of how the funds you ask for will make a difference. People give because they are asked, because they care, and because the person that is asking is passionate about the cause.

Best Practices

1. Start Early!

- a. Although it may seem like you have all the time in the world to fundraise, this event will be here sooner than you think! The sooner you start fundraising, the more money you will raise for your non-profit and the sooner you will reach your goal.
- b. Remember, as soon as you reach your goal, you will be able to choose your fundraising time and officially make it onto the event schedule!

2. Create an Email Schedule!

- a. It is easy to be super keen when you start your fundraising journey, but lose steam a couple weeks in.
- b. To make sure you are reaching out to your potential donors consistently, create an email schedule, with specific dates and diverse content.
- c. This ensures that you will be switching up your messaging, so your potential donors are not receiving the same ask over and over again. Keep it interesting.
- d. Suggested topics for your emails;
 - i. Ask your non-profit to provide mission related blurbs to add to your emails. This keeps your potential donors updated on WHY you are doing this and how it is helping.
 - ii. Include updates on where you are in the fundraising process and how much more you need to reach your goal.
 - iii. Include pictures and videos from Over the Edge – just ask us for them!

3. Get Help From Your Support System!

- a. If your friends and colleagues are not able to donate, that's OK! There is lots they can do to help you reach your goal;
- b. Ask them to share your personal fundraising page on their social media forums
- c. Provide them with "info cards" about the event that include your fundraising website and ask that they distribute it to their network.
- d. Ask them to reach out to the people in their lives that may have a connection to the mission, and would consider donating.

4. Make a Video!

- a. As opposed to writing post after post on your social media forums, consider switching it up! Make a video detailing what you are doing and why you are doing it;

Add the event logo to your e-mail signature. You can also include a hyper-link to

- b. Most viewers will watch a video before they will read a post.
- c. It is easier to communicate the mission of the non-profit profit you are supporting when you are speaking about it – the video makes it more personal.

5. Use Your Community Connections!

- a. Get something donated from a business in your community (gift certificate, swag bag, service, etc.)
- b. Create a raise-athon week!
- c. In your email and on social media use wording similar to this “Everyone who donates to me this week, will go in a draw to win ___”
- d. At the end of the week, get someone to take a video of you drawing a name, and post it! That person wins something, and you’ve made some extra money!



Fundraising Inspiration

- Floor sponsors and donations
 - Divide the number of floors into your minimum amount raised
 - \$1000/20 floors, \$50 pledge per floor
- Foot sponsors
 - Same as floors, except use the height of the building in feet
 - \$1000/200 feet, \$5 per foot
- Corporate matching
 - Many companies will match charitable contributions their employees make. See if your company will match your donations or the total funds you raise. If they only match employee giving, get as many of your co-workers to give as possible.
- Corporate donations
 - Don't forget you can ask area businesses to support you.
- Office campaigns
 - You can put together some mini-fundraisers to benefit your cause
 - Bake sale – sell cookies at your desk.
 - BBQ fundraiser (charge for lunch or ask for donations)
 - Baskets – keep a donation plate on your desk or in a common area
 - Challenge: have a peer in another department go Over the Edge with you and see who can raise the most money, or whoever raises the most has to go Over the Edge. For execs, challenge other departments or challenge an exec from another company!

FUNDRAISERS

Fundraisers are really just excuses to have a party! Think of something that you and your friends and/or family like to do, and make it a benefit to help you to get to be able to go Over the Edge in April.

Key Elements

Start planning early

- Promote your event
- Use social media and e-vites to spread the word quickly and cheaply
- Be sure to send out reminders as your event approaches
- Tell each guest to bring another friend or two
- Decide if you'll be charging a flat rate or simply asking for a suggested donation
- Include a silent auction or raffle to increase donations at your event
- Pass around a jar at the event and ask people to donate their change

Don't know what to plan??

We've included some great ideas for you below. Not everything on this list will appeal to you. Pick something that sounds like fun and start planning! If you need help on how to plan a great fundraiser, let us know. We are here to help!

- Babysitting by Donation Bachelor/Bachelorette Auction Bake Sale
- BBQ Cook Off
- Clothing Swap Night
- Be a Designated Driver- Ask for donations
- Benefit Concert Bingo Night
- Board Game Tournament Bowling Tournament
- Car Wash Chili/Spaghetti Cook Off
- Craft Show Dinner Party
- Dodgeball Tournament Dog Wash
- Garage Sale Holiday Bizarre Karaoke Night
- Kick Ball Tournament Movie Night
- Pancake Breakfast Pet Sitting
- Pizza Party
- Poker Tournament Raffle
- Scrapbook Party
- Sell Something on Ebay Silent Auction
- Snack Basket at Work Softball Tournament Trivia Party
- Volleyball Tournament Wine & Cheese Party