

Team FARE

Fundraising from A to Z

A

Ask Everyone You Meet: The “ask” is the most important part of fundraising, and the more people you talk to about your Team FARE fundraising event, the more donations you will get!

Auctions: Anything that has potential value to a group of people can be auctioned off to raise funds for food allergies. Seek donations for your auction, and consider unique opportunities that might be auctioned as well, such as a prime parking space at work, a half/whole day off from work, a special lunch, a trip, etc. in addition to collectibles and memorabilia.

B

Babysitter Service: Ask parents in your community if you can babysit for a donation toward food allergy research, education, advocacy and awareness initiatives.

Bag Groceries: Ask a local grocer if you can volunteer to bag groceries for donations in the form of tips. Share a flier to help explain your Team FARE fundraising efforts to the store’s customers.

Bake Sale: Sell yummy homemade goodies at a local game or function. Some popular stores may also allow you to fundraise outside of their entrance doors, but ask the store manager first!

Block Party: Neighborhood block parties are fun, and you can sell food and drinks and/or charge admission.

Boss for a Day: If your supervisor agrees, allow staff members to bid on being “Boss for a Day.” The highest bid, of course, wins.

Brown Bag Lunch Week: Ask co-workers to bring homemade lunches for a week so they can donate what they would have normally spent to your Team FARE fundraising!

C

Carwashes: When the weather warms up, help your neighbors keep their cars clean with a car wash fundraiser! (You may need a few additional volunteers to help.)

Challenges: A little competition can be fun, so email a friend in your area and challenge them to see who can raise the most!

Change Wars/Coin Drive: No one is too young to fundraise, so encourage people to collect coins for your Team FARE fundraising effort. They can visit neighborhood homes with a parent or guardian. They might also place a large jar in their school cafeteria to ask students and staff to contribute leftover change, or start a “Change War” at school to see which classroom can raise the most.

Coin Collection from Wishing Wells: Get permission from your local park or mall to collect the “wish” coins tossed in their fountain for a designated time period. Different locations will have different procedures for how to go about this, so talk to the facility director first!

Challenge by the Boss: Is your boss a team player with a good sense of humor? If she or he is willing, ask to set an amount that can be raised by staff members who want to see him or her kiss a pig, get a pie in the face, or some other minor “punishment” that will be fun for all to enjoy.

Craft Fairs: Use your unique skills to develop arts and crafts for sale. Booths can often be set up at local festivals and farmers markets to fundraise for nonprofit organizations. Check your local opportunities!

Concession Stands: Request permission to sell concessions at a local game or community event. Some stands will donate a percentage back to you. Others may allow you to sell items you’ve brought in.

D

Dance for a Cure: Do you have close ties with a local band or DJ? Ask them to donate their services for a fundraising dance hosted at a free (if possible) venue. Charge for entry and sell refreshments!

Dog Walkers: Dog walking offers another opportunity for you to raise money in your community. Ask families to donate each time you save them the trouble of taking out their own pet!

Dress Down Days: Work with the Human Resources Department of your employer to have employees pay for a special, non-Friday dress down day at work! This may also work in schools that require uniforms, but check with the principal first!

E

Email: Don’t forget to send emails to your friends, family and co-workers asking for donations. A personal request often goes further than any other kind!

Errand Service: Advertise that you will run errands for a donation when neighbors don’t have time to do so on their own.

Etiquette Reminders: Does your organization need a “swear jar” for those who forget or a meeting/phone fine for those who disrupt with tardiness or noise? Perhaps for one month, your co-workers may be willing to make contributions to alter bad habits by giving a set amount each time they err. Talk to them about it. You might also want to try this with kids at home to both encourage them to give to positive causes and to support prior teaching on good manners.

E

Fish Fry: Host a fish fry at your community center or house of worship and charge a few bucks over the cost to prepare each plate that can be donated to your efforts!

Flower Sales: Around Valentine’s Day and other special holidays, buy nice flowers at low cost from a wholesaler, then sell bouquets, potted flowers, or individual stems at your school or place of work.

G

Game Night: Sell tickets to a special “game night” party at your home. Invite friends to play board games, charades and more!

Garage Sales: Garage sales are a great way to raise extra money toward your Team FARE goal! Explore your home for items that are no longer meaningful for you, but still in good enough condition to help someone else!

Go Door-to-Door: Prepare a few words about FARE, then go door-to-door and ask for donations. Your team can work together to cover different sections of town to request donations.

Go Greek: Contact either the graduate or undergraduate chapter of your local sorority/fraternity and ask if they would make FARE one of their philanthropic causes.

Golf Tournament: Host a golf tournament with the proceeds benefiting FARE.

H

Hat (or Cap) Day: Talk to your principal for permission. If you get approval, advertise that students can make a donation to FARE to receive permission to wear ball caps to school on a designated day.

Haunted House: For Halloween, organize a haunted house and charge admission to raise funds for your Team FARE webpage.

Holiday Sale: Is your team crafty? Come together to make ornaments or other holiday crafts, and sell them for a donation.

I

Ice Cream Socials: Plan an allergy-friendly ice cream social (be sure to label all ingredients!), and ask for a donation to your Team FARE webpage.

J

Jail & Bail: In a “jail & bail” fundraiser, employees are “arrested.” They can donate on their own to be released, or a bounty (at least \$100 is suggested) can be placed on their heads that fellow employees must meet. Some employees may choose to pay a fee to have another “arrested” for the fundraising event.

Jeans Day: Similar to “Hat Day,” allow individuals to donate for the opportunity to wear jeans on a non-casual workday. You may want to require larger donations for those who desire to get fully decked out in a denim suit (jacket, pants, and shirt).

Jewelry Sales: Entrepreneurs with jewelry enterprises might appreciate you for hosting a jewelry party in your home. Ask that they donate a percentage of each sale to FARE! You might also contact a wholesale company to purchase nice jewelry that you can sell for a profit that can be put toward your Team FARE fundraising goal.

K

Karaoke Tournament: A Karaoke Tournament is a fun way to raise money! Charge an entry fee and have the audience vote for their favorite with their dollars. Many free Karaoke tracks are available on YouTube, or you can rent a Karaoke machine at an affordable price.

Kitchen Tools Sale: Work with an independent consultant selling kitchen tools to host a kitchen show. A portion of the sales from the event can benefit your Team FARE webpage!

L

Lawn Service: Ask your family, friends and neighbors if you can mow their lawn and do other yard work in exchange for a donation to your Team FARE initiative.

Letter Writing: Despite the popularity of electronic communication, people still enjoy getting personal letters in the mail. Draft a letter that shares your reason for hosting or participating in a Team FARE event and why you support FARE, then send it to family members and friends and ask for their support. Send to everyone in your network, and include your personal fundraising link so they can give online quickly and securely.

Lunch With: Ask an influential or popular member of your community or religious institution, or a top-level executive from your office, to donate his or her time to your Team FARE fundraising efforts, then host a raffle for a special lunch with that individual.

M

Matching Gifts: Donations can sometimes be doubled or tripled through a company's matching gifts program. Check with your organization's Human Resources department to see if you have a matching gifts program and, if so, complete the required paperwork. Ask all who donate to your Team FARE webpage if their organization has a matching gifts program as well.

Money Jars: Create Team FARE donation jars by taping information about food allergies on the front. Leave the jars in safe locations where they will have some monitoring and where you have permission to collect funds.

Monday Night Football Party with a Purpose: If you have access to a big screen television, charge admission and offer allergy-friendly refreshments for guests to enjoy the game together for a good cause.

N

Night at the Movies: Host a movie night for food allergies. Charge admission, offer allergy-friendly refreshments and sell drinks to help support your fundraising efforts to support food allergy research, education, advocacy and awareness initiatives.

O

Odd Jobs: One way for kids to raise funds is through the execution of odd jobs for donations. Have your kids check with neighbors and friends to see if they can take out the trash, rake leaves, run errands or perform other tasks for monetary gifts to FARE.

Open House: Invite friends and family over for an open house. Have allergy-friendly appetizers and drinks available, and tell them about FARE's mission and why you are participating in a Team FARE fundraising efforts. Encourage them to donate and ask them to join efforts.

P

Pizza Sales: Talk to a local pizza eatery owner or manager to see if they will consider donating a percentage of sales on a particular day to FARE. If so, drum up extra business for the establishment on that day by sharing information on social media and distributing fliers.

Party with a Purpose: Charge admission for a fun neighborhood party, then contribute the admission fees collected to your Team FARE fundraising efforts!

Q

Quilts: Does a family member or friend quilt? If so, ask for a donated item, then raffle off the unique and special handmade quilt to benefit your Team FARE fundraising efforts.

Quizmaster: Ask a local bar or restaurant to host a Quiz Night or Trivia Night for your Team FARE event. Invite your friends and family, and ask each participant to submit an entry fee. Ask the venue to donate a gift card or prize for the winner.

R

Restaurant night: Approach your favorite restaurant and ask them to donate a percentage of a night's or week's profits to FARE. Agree on paper that they will donate a designated percentage of their sales from that evening and let everyone you know when and where it is happening.

Roll Those Pennies: Many individuals seek to rid themselves of extra change around their homes. Ask them to donate the collection of coins, roll them in the appropriate coin sacks, and add them to your Team FARE fundraising total.

S

Sport Tournaments: Organize a fun sports tournament at a local school gym or community center, and charge an entry fee for participating teams. Make sure entrants know their fees go to a good cause and Team FARE.

Student/Faculty Game: Consider organizing a student vs. faculty sports game to raise funds through Team FARE by charging admission, selling concessions and collecting donations at the event.

T

Team Pride Day: For a donation to your Team FARE webpage, employees or students can wear the jersey of their favorite team on a designated day. Secure a prize for the oldest jersey, the team that is geographically furthest away, or another predetermined goal!

Ticket Raffle: Buy a set of tickets at an office or party supply store and hold a 50/50 ticket raffle for FARE. In a 50/50 raffle, half the proceeds raised from sales go to the winner while the other half goes to the cause. Every ticket sold benefits both the value of the prize and the value of the donation! You can also raffle off donated gifts.

U

Ugly Sweater Party: Host an ugly sweater (or other costume) party at your house. Voting for the “most heinous sweater award” is then done in dollars that benefit FARE. Give a separate prize to the winner.

V

Vacation Day Drawing: Talk with your employer about FARE and ask for permission to raffle off a vacation day with pay to benefit the effort. If they agree, donate raised funds to FARE through your Team FARE webpage.

Vendors: Solicit items you can raffle or auction from local vendors. Visit www.foodallergy.org/support-fare/your-donation-at-work for suggestions to help you explain how donations to FARE help the food allergy community.

W

Wine and Cheese Party: Check with a local wine store to see if they will donate a percentage of proceeds from a wine tasting to your Team FARE initiative.

X

Xerox Machine: Still “old school”? Use a Xerox machine or any copier to print off information about your Team FARE fundraiser that you can hand to individuals everywhere you go.

Y

“Yes” Day: Pick a day and determine to get “x” number of “yes” replies to your request for donations to FARE. Don’t stop working until you’ve reached your goal!

Yard Work: Offer to do a neighbor’s yard work for a donation.

Z

Zumba-thon: Ask a local fitness instructor if they will donate their services to a special class (Zumba, Yoga, Kickboxing, etc.) where the fees go to your Team FARE fundraiser. Ask a local gym, school, religious institution or other facility with a large room if they will host the event. Spread the word about your event throughout the community, and watch the dollars add up as people sign up for the class.

Explore other creative ideas to raise funds! Feel free to ask a FARE regional staff member to help you execute your plans!