



Cedar Valley United Way

**Here is a list of creative and dynamic fundraising ideas for your United Way campaign! What better way to start your campaign, inspire your employees, and build support for Cedar Valley United Way than to use fun activities for your kick off! Now is your chance to thank your people for supporting and contributing to the magic of Cedar Valley United Way.**

-  **Putt Putt Contest:** Design and set up your own wacky miniature 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. Flag each hole with a fact about Cedar Valley United Way.
-  **Paper Airplane Contest/Obstacle Course:** Have a paper airplane contest from an upper floor of your building or create a paper airplane obstacle course with an entrance fee going to Cedar Valley United Way. Charge a fee per piece of paper to make your plane, and provide fun and colorful paper to the participants. Award the plane that flies the longest and the straightest.
-  **Baby/Pet Picture Match Game:** Invite employees to try their luck at matching baby or pet pictures with employees and/or management. Award the person with the most correct answers with a paid day off or some other fun incentive. Charge employees \$5 per ballot.
-  **Bowl-a-Thon:** Employees pay a \$5 entrance fee to participate in this event. Give each participant a pledge sheet in advance to use when asking other employees for their support. Make the event more memorable by hosting a particular agency.
-  **Balloon Pop:** Employees donate prizes for this event. Before filling a balloon with helium, place a note inside with a prize. Participants pay between 1-5 dollars to pop a balloon and find out what prize they have won.
-  **Shave/Whip Cream the Boss:** Have the CEO or management challenge the staff to raise an amount for Cedar Valley United Way. If the employees succeed, they can shave the head of the boss, shave their face (if they have a mustache and/or beard), hit them in the face with a shaving cream/whip cream pie, or make them into a human sundae.
-  **Would You Rather:** Make a list of things the boss would rather do or not do. Use fun information about the boss, i.e. would they rather eat a hamburger or hot dog. Charge a fee for completing the quiz. The person or people with all the correct answers gets a prize.
-  **Executive Obstacle Course:** Set up an obstacle course for executives to go through, either sitting in a chair or on a tricycle. Let employees bet on the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners. Try the same thing with remote control cars.
-  **Lunch Box Auction:** Create gourmet lunch boxes and have the employees bid for them. You can have the employees prepare the boxes and give awards for the most creative, nutritious, elegant, and humorous.



**Crazy Hat Day:** Have participants pay a fee to use supplies to create a crazy hat that they can wear all day. Give awards for the most creative, tallest, most colorful, and most realistic.



**Chopstick Day:** Have employees purchase a pair of wooden chopsticks for lunch, and insist they must use their chopsticks to eat their lunch/snack. Set up pairs of bowls with items in every other bowl and see who can fill their bowl the fastest using only chopsticks. You may need to use cheater chopsticks for beginners.



**Photo Scavenger Hunt:** Have participants play in teams of 2-4 and pay to participate in a photo scavenger hunt. Give out prizes to the first team that completes the scavenger hunt. This is a great way to encourage teamwork.



**Human Bingo:** Find out fun facts about employees and have them find those people and get them to sign a bingo sheet. For completing the sheet successfully, a person receives a prize.



**Clothespin Activity:** Glue a fun logo, picture, or design onto several clothespins and pin them on people. If you get pinned throughout the day, you must put \$1 into a jar or pick a dare out of a jar and complete the activity. Make sure the dares are office friendly.



**Paris Fashions:** Have participants pay money to buy supplies to create fun, high fashion. Give participants 20 minutes with all of their supplies to create their masterpieces, and then have a fashion show. Give prizes for most creative, funniest, and most likely to be seen on a runway. Give out an Eiffel Tower award to the winner.



**Cookie Decorating Contest:** Have participants purchase large sugar cookies and then decorate them. Give awards for most creative, most appetizing, cookie monster award, best holiday cookie, and it's a mystery to me.



**Employee Cookbook:** Collect recipes from employees, then retype your collection into food categories like main dish or desserts. Sell the cookbook for a fee. Ask an employee's child to design the cover of your cookbook. See if a local business will print and bind your book. People really like this idea, so plan for an enthusiastic response.



**Let's Make a Deal:** People who donate get to participate in the game Let's Make a Deal. Have items donated for the game and use great gag gifts. Charge a fee of 5-10 dollars for participation and encourage game players to wear costumes.



**Minute to Win It:** Charge participants to play Minute to Win It games. Have 2 teams compete against one another. Use items around the house to create your game course. Winners get a prize.



**Random Acts of Kindness:** Make up a list of 20 random acts of kindness or compliments that you can sell for 1-2 dollars to pass out to other employees.



**Heads or Tails Raffle:** This is an easy and fast raffle that raises money quickly. Come up with an amount to enter the contest, around 3-5 dollars. Each person stands up and puts their hands on their head or on their tails. The host will flip a coin. Those with their hands on the part corresponding with the coin get to stay in while the others are out. The coin is flipped until the last person is standing, and they get a prize.

## Additional Ideas:

- > Organize a United Way breakfast for your employees.
- > Have a karaoke contest.
- > Have a casual day.
- > Organize a silent auction.
- > Get your car washed by a CEO.
- > Win time off from work.
- > Cut off an executive's tie
- > Halloween pumpkin carving/holiday ornament decorating contest
- > Food drive or school supply drive

## Themes:

- > Big Shot: Uses a picture of a large thermometer to keep track of the campaign progress.
- > Wild West Day: Dress in western wear and serve tacos.
- > Willy Wonka Day: Provide candy crafts such as pixie stick art and Kool-Aid painting for your staff.
- > Undersea Jamboree: Have a tropical island themed day. Have participants make beach bags, sand art, or have a sponge toss.
- > Queen of Hearts Casino: Have a casino night based on the Alice and Wonderland theme.
- > 1960's Day: Have employees dress up in 1960's fashion and provide spin art, jean decorating, making lava lamps, and 60's trivia.
- > Spa Day: Provide foot massages, pedicures, manicures, bathrobes, and magazines for employees for one hour for a fee.
- > Glow Bowl: Have a company glow in the dark bowling party, and have employees make their own glow in the dark t-shirts.



CedarValleyUnitedWay.org

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