

LOW or NO COST EVENTS

Pie in the Face

Employee pays \$5 for a pie to be thrown in the face of the Executive of their choice. (Another option – hold a contest where employees team up and a team that raises the most money gets to pie managers/executives in the face).

Spelling Bee

Hold an event during staff meetings or over lunch. Contestants pay a \$5 entry fee. Gallery observers place \$1 wagers on their favorite participants. The winner walks away with the coveted “Who Needs Spell Check” award.

Jeans Day/Slippers Day/etc.

Have employees pay \$1 (your choice) to be able to wear jeans/slippers/etc. to work for one day. \$5 if they want to wear them for a week.

Balloon Pop

Employees donate prizes for this event – a variation of a traditional raffle. Before filling a balloon with helium, put a note inside with the name of the prize. Employees pay \$1-\$5 to buy a balloon and pop it to find out what prize they’ve won.

Department Penny Wars

Each department is designated a jar. Employees are encouraged to fill their own department’s jar with pennies, each equaling one point. Opposing departments may then add other coins to their jars that are equal to their value only negative (ex. A dime is minus 10 points). The department with the most positive points at the end of the week is awarded a prize.

Employee Cookbook

Collect and group recipes into a customized cookbook. Employees’ children create illustrations for the cookbook, including cover. If possible, print and bind books by a local business, pro bono. This event has been so popular that some organizations have not been able to fill all requests. You set the price!

Employee Raffle

Ask employees to contribute something special for a raffle prize:

- Homemade pies
- One-day vacation
- Lunch with a co-worker
- Prizes donated by vendors
- Car Wash
- Tickets to a special event
- Employee Parking Spot



Employees make contribution using pledge forms. Employees turning in pledge forms early receive three raffle tickets. Employees turning in pledge forms after the “early” date, but before the Campaign’s final event, receive one raffle ticket. Employees who make a certain dollar pledge receive two additional raffle tickets.

Push Up Contest

Ever want to find out who the strongest person in the office is? Contestants pay a \$5 entry fee. Observers pay \$1 to wager one who they think will do the most push-ups. The winner is the one that does the most push-ups.

Pumpkin Carving or Decorating Contest

Plan a Halloween theme and hold a pumpkin carving contest. Find a local business willing to donate pumpkins for your organization to sell to your employees. Employees buy pumpkins for their families, their staff, or to use in the contest. Employees enter carved or decorated pumpkins individually or by group. Charge \$5 to enter and \$1 to vote. Award prizes in various categories. Examples:

- Best traditional pumpkin
- Most creative pumpkin
- Best effort by a group
- Best effort by an individual

Flowers

Work with a local florist to donate flowers that employees buy for \$2 to send to co-workers or bring home for a special someone. For a special touch have a few employees deliver the flowers in tuxedos.

Chili Cook-Off Contest

Employees cook their favorite recipe and enter it into a cook-off contest. A panel of “chili experts” selects the Official Chili Champion. Talk to a hotel representative about donating a weekend stay at their hotel for the winner.

Desert Cart/Bakery Cart

Wheel a cart of bagels, doughnuts, Danishes, cookies, brownies etc. through the office, collecting United Way donations in exchange for the goodies. Everyone wants something sweet after lunch.

Craft and Bake Sales

This popular activity gives everyone a change to share their hobbies and special baking talents. All the items are donated, and sales go to the Campaign.

Walking Taco

Set up a cart with taco ingredients and have an employee push around during lunch time for people to purchase and make their own tacos. Or use a bag of Fritos and place meat and toppings in the bag. Great for people that don’t have a long lunch break

Bingo

Sell bingo cards for employees to purchase. Get local stores to donate prizes for all winners.

Sports Team Day

Have employees pay \$1 (your choice) to be able to wear their favorite sports team apparel.



Jump Rope Contest

Contestants pay \$5 entry fee. Observers pay \$1 to wager on who they think will last the longest jumping rope. The winner is the one who last the longest without messing up.

Karaoke

Employees pay to vote on the Executive they want to sing karaoke. If the executive does not want to sing they can pay a fee to pass the task to someone else.

Signature Badges

The company creates a signature badge that employees who contribute can use in their email signature. This gives them bragging right.

Put Your Best Foot Forward

Line up senior managers and/or other employees for some unique mug shots – shoes only! Hold a contest before your campaign kicks off to see if employees can figure out who's who.

Cake Walk

Have employees bake cakes and hold a cake walk for a fee.

Popcorn Sales

Sell popcorn to employees. Who can resist the smell of fresh popcorn popping?

Candy Wraps

In our Online Campaign Toolkit (Get Involved > Ways to Give > Workplace Campaign) you can find a template for the candy wrappers we designed for you (e.g. for Hershey's chocolate bars). You can buy them at a discount and then sell them for \$1-\$2 in their new "clothing".

BIGGER EVENTS

Flashback Carnival

Invite employees to an old-fashioned carnival, complete with cake walks; bake sale, bubble blowing and 50 cent hotdogs. Hold a hoola-hop contest and hoop shoot to really give it that flashback flavor. Set up a dunk tank with all your dunkable executives (charge \$3 for three balls). Throw pies at all your favorite executives. Bean bag toss, \$1 for 3 throws. Charge participants a fee to enter the contests.

CEO/Executive/Manager Car Wash

Employees donate \$10 to have their car washed at high noon by the "boss" in business clothing. Charge extra for special services like cleaning the interior or polishing the rims. Charge for pictures of the employees and the boss washing their car.

Pot Luck Luncheon

Participating employees bring a hot-dish, appetizer, salad, side, dessert, etc to be shared. Paper products are also needed at this event. There is no sign up for this event. Items brought are completely random. Employees pay \$5 to fill their plate and sample everything in the room.

International Food Day

Employees' team together to create tasty treats from around the world. Employees decorate their own booths/tables and dress in appropriate costumes. Hold the event over the lunch hour, allowing employees to purchase tickets redeemable for food at the booths. A panel of "celebrity" judges awards prizes.

Golf Tournament

Organizing a regular charity golf tournament is a daunting task, but there are only two really critical things you have to do to make one a success. Recruit a tournament organizing committee that will make sure everyone is invited (employees, partners, contractors, vendors etc. Some of the fundraising tips: Team Registration fee, change jars, etc. Trust the golf pro at the golf course you hire for direction in planning.

Casino Night

What are the ingredients for a successful Casino Night?

- A few Blackjack tables
- A Roulette wheel
- A Poker table or two
- One Bingo table
- Food and drinks

Invite employees and their families. Local businesses can donate prizes and items for winners. Many party rental stores have gaming tables that give casino night a real Vegas-like experience.

Have OTHER IDEAS?

At United Way of the Black Hills we are in the constant lookout for new ideas and ways on how to help businesses engage their employees to give back to the Black Hills Community.

Does your company/organization have any activity ideas that worked for you and are not included in this booklet? Let us know.

Please e-mail karin@unitedwayblackhills.org with any suggestions, comments, or questions you might have regarding your workplace campaign.

Have a fun campaign!

See you at **Get The Pack Back Day** on Thursday, October 26, 2017.

Thank you for joining the fight!