

CAMPAIGN ACTIVITIES

LIVE UNITED

United Way of Greater Lafayette wants to help you make your workplace campaign as successful as possible. A fun and exciting campaign raises awareness about United Way and can help to raise funds. We have put together a list of fun and engaging activities that are sure to have a positive impact on your workplace campaign. Feel free to pick two or three (or more) of these events to bring your team together and to raise money for United Way at the same time!

Contests

- **Pie-eating contest:** Choose employees or managers to compete in a pie-eating contest. Tie participants' hands behind their back and time them to see how many cream pies they can eat in a designated time.
- **Best celebrity or employee impersonation:** Hold a contest for employees to dress or act as their favorite celebrity or fellow employee. Be sure to put together a good judging panel and award prizes.
- **Mystery hunt:** Clues (sent via e-mail) lead hunters to a United Way agency or co-worker who is connected to United Way Committee or an agency. This is a wonderful way to educate employees about United Way's involvement in the community.
- **United Way trivial pursuit:** Distribute printed questions about United Way and its programming every day for a week. Then ask trivia questions based on the information. Those completing all questions are entered into a drawing.
- **Executive dare:** Challenge the staff to meet a goal. If they can meet the goal, a manager or CEO will perform a dare. Examples: a losing department manager can cook lunch for the winning department. The CEO can dress crazy for a day.
- **United Way jingle/video/commercial contest:** Have each department create a jingle about United Way. Have them perform for a judging panel or other employees.
- **Create a game:** Hand out a United Way quiz which compliments materials in the campaign packet. Those answering correctly are eligible for prizes.
- **Pumpkin carving contest:** Plan a Halloween theme and have a pumpkin carving contest. Employees buy the pumpkins, then pay to enter the contest. Award prizes in a variety of categories such as most creative, scariest, best effort, or most traditional.
- **Scavenger hunt:** Make a creative list and have employees find the items within the company.
- **Basketball shooting contest:** Charge each employee for a three-minute period to shoot baskets with a prize going to the winner. Another take would be to do a Bozo style "Grand Prize Game."
- **Ugliest tie or hat contest:** Have employees wear their ugliest hats or ties and solicit votes (\$1 per vote) from employees. The person with the most votes at the end of the day wins.
- **Company IQ test:** Make up an IQ test based on your company's history or products. Have employees pay to complete it and offer a prize to the winner.
- **Look-alike contest:** Employees dress up as famous personalities such as Elvis, Madonna, etc. and co-workers pay to vote for the best look- alike. Award a prize to the winner.

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Miscellaneous

- **Top ten list:** Have a contest among employees to make a list of the top ten reasons to support United Way. Post winning list in bathrooms, break rooms, or publish in the next newsletter.
- **Payday reminders:** Hand out Payday candy bars as a reminder that employees can pledge with payroll deductions.
- **Change jar:** Encourage employees to drop their change in a United Way campaign box in the break room.
- **Drawings:** For every \$10 pledged to United Way, the employee's name will go in a drawing for a prize. The drawing will be held on the last day of the campaign.
- **Dunk tank:** Set up a dunk tank in the parking lot and have employees pay to dunk managers or co-workers.
- **Create an employee cookbook:** Collect employee recipes and helpful hints. Print the recipes, bind, and charge for books.
- **Trick or treat party:** Invite children from a United Way partner program to tour the office in a costume. Give out pencils, candies, and other treats.
- **Compliment-o-gram:** Send anonymous compliments (for a small charge) to co-workers.
- **Balloon-o-gram:** Send balloons with messages to co-workers.
- **Goblin goodies:** Buy treats to send to others (or any other name based on your theme)
- **Casual Day:** Sell Casual Day stickers/badges that allow employees to dress casually on a given day. Proceeds benefit United Way.
- **Coin Wars:** Each department finds a large container to dump spare change in for a set period. The department with the most change collected wins a prize or a lunch and all proceeds benefit United Way.
- **Crazy Hat Day:** Select a day that employees pay a fee to wear a crazy hat (or shoes, pajamas, hair, etc.) during work. Craziest or most original hat gets a prize.
- **Halloween Theme:** Host a Halloween costume or pumpkin-carving contest. Charge a fee to enter and vote. Award prizes to funniest, scariest, most original costume or carving.

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Food related

- **Latte stand:** Offer a latte stand. Remind employees what a latte costs and show them how donating that amount daily (or weekly) can benefit the programs that United Way funds. Call us for this information.
- **Midnight breakfast:** Don't forget about third shift employees! Provide breakfast at midnight, served by executives.
- **Host a tailgate party:** Sell hotdogs, chips, and drinks.
- **Chili Cook Off:** Ask employees to cook a favorite chili recipe. Invite employees to pay \$8 for lunch (which includes a sample of each chili) and to vote for their favorite. The employee with the most votes wins a prize.
- **Potato Bar:** Sell baked potatoes with all the toppings.
- **Guessing Game:** Fill a large jar with red hots, jellybeans, or any other candy. Have employees pay to make a guess about how many objects are in the jar. The winner gets the jar or another prize.
- **Summer Picnic:** Host a summer picnic with a grilled lunch for employees. Raise money by including games such as corn hole, ladder golf, water balloon toss, and tug of war.
- **Turkey Giveaway:** Use Thanksgiving time as an inspiration. Raffle off a turkey or a gift card to a local grocery store or butcher. Proceeds benefit United Way.
- **Build Your Own Ice Cream Sundaes:** Have a wide variety of ice cream and toppings available for employees to make

Sports events

- **Team sports:** Organize tournaments with any of your favorite games. Consider ping-pong, video games, volleyball, thumb wrestling, Rock Paper Scissors, or board games.
- **Bowling Tournament:** Get a bowling alley to reduce fees. Charge full rates. OR host a Wii Bowling contest.
- **Bike or walk-a-thon:** Collect pledges
- **Company Olympics:** Employees form teams and compete in Olympic or Minute to Win It style of games. Teams pay to participate, and the winning team wins a prize or lunch.
- **Mini Indy 500:** Rent or borrow remote-controlled cars and set up a track. Use office supplies as obstacles in the track and let employees pay to race. The winner gets a prize and spectators can place bets on competitors.

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Auction and sales

- **Silent auctions:** Have staff auction off services such as car washing, cooking, or donated crafts. Have executives auction off their parking places or have dinner with them. Solicit local vendors and businesses for prizes.
- **Craft, food, bake sale:** Employees donate baked goods, items from their gardens, or even meals with proceeds going to United Way.
- **Employee raffle:** Employees donate items to be raffled off during the campaign. Donated items can include food items, homemade craft items, use of a vacation home, or tickets to a special event. Raffle tickets can be purchased or handed out based on completing pledge forms
- **Themed baskets:** Have each department create a theme basket to be auctioned via silent or live auction. Themes can include movie night, crafts, golfing, sports, family game night, spa package, scrapbook kits, or baking.
- **Rummage sale:** Employees donate items to sell. Hold the sale in a cafeteria or conference room. Can be private or open to the public. Specialize for just kids and baby items.
- **Plant sale:** Have employees dig up their extra perennials and have a fall plant sale.
- **50/50 Raffle Fundraising:** Raffle ticket sales in which half of the proceeds benefit the United Way and half of the proceeds go to the winner of the raffles. Your only cost is the roll or rolls of tickets! Tickets are usually sold for \$1 each with an incentive for buying extra tickets such as 3 for \$2, or 5 for \$4.
- **Balloon Pop:** Employees donate prizes for the event. Before blowing up balloons put a note with the prize inside.
- **Basket Raffle:** Each department makes a themed basket (spa, chocolate, sports, night out, etc.). Sell raffle tickets for a set price and let employees select which basket or baskets they would like to win.
- **Craft Sale:** Ask employees to donate homemade items to sell at lunchtime. Proceeds benefit United Way and employees get a chance to share hobbies.
- **Garage Sale:** Employees donate items to sell from their home. Host a garage sale style sale with all proceeds going to United Way.
- **Reserved Parking:** Auction off a prime parking spot. High bidders get to use the spot for one week or one month.
- **Extra Day Raffle:** Raffle off an extra day or ½ day of vacation.
- **Lunch with CEO:** Raffle off a lunch with the boss or CEO, CEO's treat!