



Wondering how to start your own fundraiser? Here are 33 ideas!

How to Ask: Share your pride and excitement in being a part of this great cause- you will radiate that happiness and make people more willing to donate!

1. **First Step** - Make your own donation the first step! When people see that others have already donated, they are more intrigued to do so as well.
2. **Be Sure to Suggest an Appropriate Amount** - Make sure you're not lowballing when asking for donations. Don't ask for \$20 from someone you know could donate \$900.

Home is Where the Heart Is!

3. **Entertain at Home!** Have people over, share stories, your mission, and have fun! Keep a tablet for people to donate online or envelopes where people can give cash or checks.
4. **Paint and Sip!** Grab some wine and appetizers, some canvases and paint! Invite your friends over for an evening of artistic expression and good company. Ask for a requested amount to participate in your event that will go towards this cause.
5. **Garage Sale** - Got stuff you need to get rid of? Grab some friends and set up shop!
6. **Make some dough** – Need an excuse to bake a bunch of cookies or brownies? Now you have one! With all of the money you receive, you can deposit that directly into your fundraising account!
7. **Extra Change** - Set a box or a bowl in a central location in your house, allowing everyone in your family to drop their spare change throughout the days and weeks. After a while, it'll really add up!
8. **Theme Night** – Throw a them party! Ask all of your friends to donate \$50 towards the cause, have fun and raise money!
9. **Dinner for Donations** – Need an excuse to try a new recipe? Now you have one! Host a delectable dinner and ask friends to make a donation to your cause.

Work It!

10. **Play your cards right** - Challenge everyone in your office to raise the most money. Make sure there is a prize for the winner, such as a gift card to their favorite cafe.
11. **Corporate Cooperation**- Ask if your company would be willing to match the donations given to you by fellow coworkers.
12. **Friend's Corporate Cooperation** - Check and see if your friend's company will match the donation they're giving you, double the contribution!
13. **Corporate Sponsorship** - Check out the companies in your area, choose one and get into direct contact with them. They may even be able to sponsor you entirely!
14. **Dress Down for a Donation** - Ask your company to allow for an official Haiti Outreach Dress Down Day at the office! In order for people to be given the privilege of dressing down, they each must donate at least \$10 or \$20 towards the event.

Reach Out!

15. **Local Restaurants** - Ask around at your favorite restaurants to see if they would be willing to set out a jar at the front desk as a way of collecting tips that can be used towards your fundraising. Make sure you speak with the manager- they may even direct you to a spot of high-traffic where many people will be able to see the jar!
16. **Radio Station** - Call into your favorite radio station and ask if they would be willing to spread the news through their form of communication - the radio! This will expand your audience tremendously.
17. **Hair Salon** - For every haircut your hairdresser does this week, ask them to put away \$2 towards your ride.
18. **Good Karma** - Go to local businesses and ask if you can leave a donation jar on the front desk or register. Add a picture of yourself and a short explanation of what you're raising money for. This will intensify people!
19. **Bike Shops** - The bike ride is what we're ultimately leading up to - tell your local bike shops the story and ask them if they'd be willing to sponsor you!
20. **Church Bulletin, Nearest Coop, Local Cafe** - Ask these places if they would be willing to place your flyer and story on a bulletin!
21. **Parent to Parent** - If you're at your kid's basketball game, hand out flyers to all the other parents there and spread the word!

Write On!

22. **Eye-Catching Sponsor Letters** - Add some pizzazz to your sponsor letters by incorporating fun colors and designs, these are sure to stick out against the boring old bills.
23. **Customize your Email** - Add a sentence in your email signature about the cause you are fundraising for, and make sure to ask for a donation! Include a link for easy access, this will increase the flow of donations.
24. **Send out emails** to family and friends asking for their support! (Individual emails will feel more personal to your donors than sending mass emails)
25. **Social Media** - Post an Instagram story, a Tweet, or a Facebook post with the link to your donation site included!
26. **Reminders** - Send out reminders to people that may not have responded the first time you reached out to them. Tip: it takes an average of 3 – 5 times of seeing a message before people respond.
27. **A little inspiration goes a long way** - Make bookmarks or postcards with pictures and stories that will motivate people to give!

Fundraising is no sweat!

28. **Pump Iron for Pennies** - Ask if your local gym would be interested in placing a pledge jar at the front desk. Leave some pledge forms there as well! Ask your instructor to make an announcement during the workout class!
29. **Move for Money** – Set a personal goal and raise a dollar amount that correlates for that goal. For example, want to run 10 miles? Ask people to give \$1 for each mile you run!
30. **Team Work**- Ask your sports team to sponsor you, or better yet – to join you!

Never too cool for school!

31. **Easy as ABC** - Contact your school and ask them if they could put some advertisements into a newsletter, e-letter, flyer, or the daily announcements.
32. **Greek Houses** - Ask your Fraternity or Sorority if they would be willing to make a donation.
33. **Alumni** - Ask your college or university to place an ad into the alumni newsletter and allow your former classmates and friends to support you.

Be sure to stay on top of the money you have raised by entering each donation into your online account or mailing them into Haiti Outreach.

Note: If you are using an online fundraising campaign, you can still accept cash or check donations. Here are the steps to ensure that your donations go into your personal fundraising page:

1. Ask your donor to write the check out to **Haiti Outreach**, but give it to you at the fundraiser.
2. For cash gifts, please deposit the cash into your bank and write a check to Haiti Outreach for the cash amount. (Cash gifts are not eligible for tax deductions).
3. You will need to enter the donation amount yourself into your campaign (see page 10-11 of the instructions).
4. Mail checks to: **Haiti Outreach 50 Ninth Avenue South Suite 203, Hopkins, MN. 55343.**