



We Need To Do A Benefit Fundraiser - But How ?

The Complete Guide to Putting On a Successful Benefit Fundraiser



something as simple as Sloppy Joes or shredded beef on buns with beans and potato chips – all included in the door donation price. However, your food can also be a moneymaker. All you need is a couple of grills and a few volunteers and you can sell hotdogs, hamburgers, sausage and the like along with soda pop and dessert. You determine the prices: For example, hotdogs \$1.00, hamburgers \$1.50, cheeseburgers \$2.00, soda pop 50 cents – chips and dessert included in the price. Now a tip on how to save yourself a lot of work and a lot of money. You and your committee members are going to be much too busy with other things that day and you won't have time to play waiter or waitress. Each community has a Lions Club or Optimists Club – organizations that are always looking for community service projects. See if they'll man (or woman) the grills and serve the food. Also, don't pay for any of the food. Go to your local grocery store or meat market. They'll be happy to donate the hotdogs, hamburger and buns. In return, you may want to put up a sign at the food booth that says "All Food Donated By Gentile's Market".

OK Tom, you keep on talking about an oral auction, a silent auction and raffles. How do we collect all this stuff?

Collecting donated items for your auctions and raffles is really a matter of networking and sending your committee into the streets to do some serious knocking on doors! A good place to begin is at your own place of employment. Ask if they would be interested in donating either an item or money. Make the same request where your spouse works. Ask your friends to do the same. Everybody knows somebody who might give something. Now it's time to approach the places you regularly



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Donor	Item	Where It's Going
Club Chalet	\$5 Gift certificate	Bucket raffle
Settlement Restaurant	5 Bottles of booze	Bucket raffle
Bay Ridge Concrete	2 large area rugs	Silent auction
Craanen's Grocery Store	3 - \$10 gift certificates	Bucket raffle
The Tool Store	Heavy Duty battery charger	Oral auction
Individual Donor	Wooden outdoor glider/rocker	Oral auction
Algoma Motors	Jacket and shirts	Bucket raffle
Van's Lumber	Gift of money - \$250	----
DeGroot, Inc.	4 - Packer tickets (2nd home game)	Oral auction
The Woods Golf Course	\$20 - Gift certificate	Bucket raffle
Sand Bay Beach Resort	Charter fishing trip	Oral auction
Broadway Automotive	Basket with automotive items	Silent auction
Landmark Resort	2 night stay	Oral auction
Simon Creek Windery	2 bottles of wine	Silent auction
Home Expressions	Decorative wall clock	Silent auction
Santa Fe Spa	Women's package	Silent auction
Framemakers	Packer autographed picture	Oral auction
Framemakers	Packer autographed jersey	Oral auction
Individual Donor	Large wooden rocking horse	Oral auction
Individual Donor	1/2 a hot	Oral auction
Individual Donor	Electric Turkey fryer	Oral auction
New Franken Service	1 Free oil change	Bucket raffle
Ramada Inn	One night stay	Bucket raffle
Northbrook Golf Club	\$15 gift certificate	Bucket raffle
Pearly Gates Bar	2 - \$10 gift certificates	Bucket raffle
Four Seasons Liquor	\$25 gift certificate	Bucket raffle
The Hair Depot	4 - \$10 gift certificates	Bucket raffle
Salmon's Meats	2 - \$15 gift certificates	Bucket raffle
Algoma Pizza Bowl	12" pizza	Bucket raffle
Algoma Beach Motel	One night stay (lakeview)	Silent auction
Algoma Beach Motel	One night stay (whirlpool)	Silent auction
Bank One	\$50 savings bond	Silent auction
Doc's Harely Davidson	3 Harley Davidson shirts	Bucket raffle
Jo To Go	Coffee basket	Bucket raffle
Algoma Motors	Shirts, gift certificates, jacket	Silent auction
Prevea Health	Sweatshirt	Bucket raffle
Clubhouse Bar & Grill	\$20 gift certificate	Bucket raffle
Klein Dickert Co.	Brett Favre / Bart Starr picture	Oral auction
Individual Donor	Kohler faucet set	Oral auction
Lipsky's Bar	1 bottle of brandy	Bucket raffle
Individual Donor	Assorted Tupperware	Bucket raffle
Individual Donor	Silver necklace and earrings	Oral auction



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do business with – the gas station, the local convenience store, your grocery store, your hairdresser, your hardware store, your golf course, the meat market, bagel shop, and of course, your favorite bar. Beside getting a donation from them, they might also let you set up a donation jar at the cash register. The larger your committee, the better luck you'll have in collecting items. For example, let's assume that each of your 12 committee members solicits a donation from 10 businesses they regularly patronize. There's the potential for 120 items for your benefit! You're on your way! The next step is to approach businesses you don't necessarily do business with on a regular basis, but who might be apt to consider donating. These businesses could include WalMart, stores in the mall, the pet store, the implement dealer, the health food store, hotels, restaurants and resorts. And don't be discouraged if you are turned down by any of them. Remember, yours is not the only benefit going on in the area. These shop owners get swamped with donation requests and they can only give so much. And don't forget to put the word out to your friends, family and co-workers to approach businesses they associate with that would possibly consider making a donation. It's the power of networking, relying on your circle of friends, family and co-workers to scour the town, leaving no donation stone unturned. Pretty soon, a human spider web is formed, all linked, all connected. Oh, what a tangled web of goodwill we weave!

As your donations come in, stay organized! Keep a running record of what the gift or donation is, where it is from, and tag it as to which auction or raffle it might go in. No final decisions need to be made at this point, but it's good to have some idea of where the items will go.