

POST FUNDRAISING



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You'll have a good chance of staying out of money troubles if you follow these three general principles:

First, make your dues high enough to meet fixed, administrative costs: postage, stationery, department dues, and in some cases, rent. These are costs that every post must meet to stay in business.

Second, if the community is to benefit from an American Legion project, don't hesitate to solicit the community for funds for example, an American Legion Baseball team, a community playground or a swimming pool. The post will actually add to its reputation with such projects, but a full public accounting needs to be made of all funds received and of how they are spent.

Third, don't ask the public to give in the name of charity for any project that will be of benefit primarily to Legionnaires. A businessman may donate to send a young man to Boys State, but he probably wouldn't care to give money to buy a new cooler for your bar. Sometimes it is necessary to raise funds from outside for something that is strictly for the benefit of the post and its members. When this happens, make sure that the public receives full value.

WHY RAISE FUNDS

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Obvious reason - reduced dues
Most important reason - Support post programs

The obvious reason is to keep the cost of dues to a minimum. Fundraisers allow those who can afford to participate to spread the cost out and effectively reduce the costs for all members.

Secondly, Post Fundraisers allow you to target specific Post programs and the people who are supportive of them.

TYPES OF FUNDRAISING

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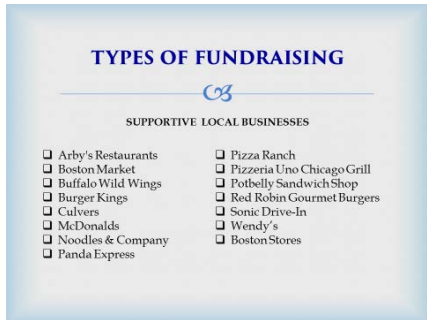
- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Donation Canisters | <input type="checkbox"/> Pet Wash |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Raffles | <input type="checkbox"/> 50/50 Raffle |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Silent Auction | <input type="checkbox"/> Heads or Tails |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spin Wheel or Dart Contest | <input type="checkbox"/> Dunk Tank |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sporting Event Concessions | <input type="checkbox"/> Ice Cream Social |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tootsie Pops for Dollars | <input type="checkbox"/> Pie-eating Contest |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yard Sale | <input type="checkbox"/> Trivia Night |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5K Run/Walk | <input type="checkbox"/> Dinners/Breakfast |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bake Sale | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Black Tie Affair | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Car Wash | |

There are several national restaurants chain that support fund raising activities for non-profit organizations.

Check with your local restaurant like:

Pick a few of these ideas and talk about them to the class. Ask for examples from your students of their successes.

- Arby's Restaurants
- Boston Market: 15% donation on sales.
- Buffalo Wild Wings
- Burger Kings 20% of sales during specified nights.
- Culvers
- McDonalds - Some McDonalds have local nights.
- Noodles & Company Fundraisers
- Panda Express - 20% of the event sales
- Pizza Ranch
- Pizzeria Uno Chicago Grill: 20% of sales.
- Potbelly Sandwich Shop - 25% by hosting a Restaurant night.
- Red Robin Gourmet Burgers
- Sonic Drive-In
- Wendy's - Each local Wendy's is different.
- Boston Stores has "Coupon Days" fundraising opportunity.



Using old coffee cans you can create donation canisters for the Post home or even ask local businesses if they would put them in their stores.

Raffles are easy to conduct - just be sure to follow all state and local laws.

Silent auctions require some leg work to collect prizes but the rewards can be very significant.

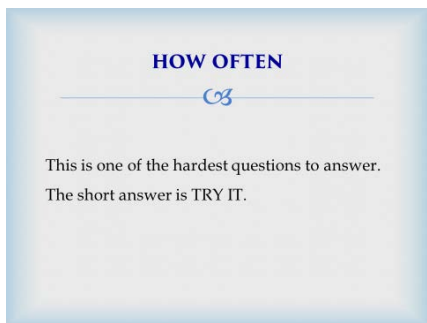
Spin a Wheel or a dart game can be a fun addition to children's event.

Many sporting events allow local groups to work as staff for Event Concessions in exchange for a percent of sales.

Tootsie Pops for Dollars
 5K Run/Walk
 Black Tie Affair
 Pet Wash
 Heads or Tails
 Ice Cream Social
 Pie-eating Contest

Yard Sale
 Bake Sale
 Car Wash
 50/50 Raffle
 Dunk Tank
 Marshmallow Putting Contest
 Trivia Night

HOW OFTEN



This is a very hard question to answer. Each community reacts differently to fundraisers.

The best way to determine what works in your community is to TRY IT!

