FUNDRAISING A-Z

A

Art Sales – This fundraiser is perfect for youth teams, as students produce creative works of art and host a show where parents, family, and friends can buy their completed masterpieces.

Ask Everyone You Meet – Always carry your push cards. That way, when you talk about your Clean Air Challenge team, you can ask people to donate right then. Don’t assume people will or won’t donate; give them the chance to decide for themselves!

Auctions of All Kinds – Talk to your employer about auctioning off a prime parking space, a half-day or whole day off from work, or offer a picnic lunch, afternoon desserts, homemade dinners, local artwork, or other creative and fun items.

B

Birthday Celebration – Ask people not to purchase cards or gifts for your birthday, but to make a donation to your Clean Air Challenge team instead.

Book Sale – Encourage your coworkers, family, and friends to dust off their bookshelves and contribute to a book sale.

Breakfast Treat Day – Bring in healthy treats, like fruits or yogurts, for a Monday morning meeting, and encourage donations in exchange for the treats. Offer desk-side delivery for pre-orders.

C

Challenge by the Boss/Principal – Get the boss or local school principal to agree that if at least 15 people join the team, and every team member raises a minimum of $100, they will wear a crazy out fit in public.

Challenges – Talk to your employer about challenging another team or company to raise more money than your team.

Chari-tea – Invite your friends to a tea party, and encourage them to wear their finest hats. Ask for a suggested donation from those attending, and ask each team member to provide a component of the tea (finger sandwiches, biscuits, exotic teas, etc.). To add awareness to your fundraising event, ask a person affected by COPD, lung cancer, or asthma to share his or her story.

Cook-offs – Encourage budding chefs to compete for the best chili or barbecue, and charge a fee to taste and vote.
Dine Out for a Cause – Many restaurants offer opportunities for hosting fundraisers and donating a portion of the sales. You should be able to find details on their website or by contacting the manager.

Dress Casual Day – Check with your employer about hosting a dress-down day. Employees who make a donation to your Clean Air Challenge team will be allowed to dress casual on a specified work day.

Envelopes at Restaurant Tables – If you work at a restaurant or in an office with a cafeteria, place an envelope at every table stating, “Please help us support the more than 37 million American’s affected by lung disease. Support the American Lung Association’s Clean Air Challenge.”

Flowers and Plants – Sell extra houseplants or bouquets from your garden, and watch your donations blossom.

Fundraise with Facebook – Download the Clean Air Challenge fundraising app to raise funds easily on Facebook and other social media sites. You’ll be able to let everyone know about your fundraising efforts throughout the season and get more friends involved.

Garage Sales – Clean out your attic, garage, and basement, and host a garage sale to raise money for your team.

Gift Wrapping – Offer to wrap gifts for your colleagues in exchange for donations.

Helper for a Day – Shovel snow, rake leaves, or mow your coworker’s/neighbor’s lawn, and donate your “fee” to your Clean Air Challenge team.

Home Parties – Host a jewelry, kitchen, candle, clothing, or home decorations party, and donate the profits to your Clean Air Challenge team.

Ice Cream Social – Celebrate summer by raising funds for your Clean Air Challenge team. Set up an old-fashioned ice cream parlor and soda fountain, offering refreshing summer treats for a donation to your team.

Jail & Bail – For a donation, employees can have another employee “arrested.” The arrested employee must post bail for an additional donation, or a bounty can be placed on the arrested employee’s head. They will be held until the entire bounty is raised. Bounties can run $100+ per inmate.

Knock Out Cancer – Ask your employer if you can set up a punching bag in your office lobby or cafeteria, and for a donation let staff take out their aggressions on lung disease.

Knit to Save Lives – Use your knitting or crochet skills to make easy items like coffee cup cozies, scarves, or hats, and offer them for a donation to your Clean Air Challenge team.
Lawn Service – While you are mowing your lawn, ask to mow someone else’s, too, for a donation to your team.

Loose Change Drive – Request a coin can from the American Lung Association, or use a soup can from home, and ask everyone you know to donate their loose change. You’ll see how quickly the can fills up!

Matching Gifts – Ask your human resources or personnel department if your employer offers a matching gift program. Your donations could be doubled!

Mustache Mania – Encourage men on your team to grow mustaches, and have people donate to the weekly winner with the most grown hair.

Name Bead Bonanza – Take orders and create personalized bracelets, key chains, necklaces, etc., for a donation to your team.

October Festival – Celebrate fall by raising funds for your Clean Air Challenge team. Have pumpkins, straw bales, dried corn stalks, colorful gourds, and bright flowers for your decor. For the main attractions, consider a pumpkin-carving or scarecrow-decorating contest, apple bobbing, face painting, or a bake sale.

Pancake Breakfast – Host a breakfast with fresh, hot pancakes, and offer a variety of fillings and toppings. All proceeds benefit your team.

Percentage of Sales – Work with a local store to host a special shopping day where a percentage of sales are donated to your team, or offer a special item (for a day or any length of time) where a percentage of the proceeds benefit your efforts. You could also work with a local restaurant on a similar opportunity.

Pet Service – Love pets? Offer to walk dogs or feed animals when people are traveling or working long hours for a donation to your team.

Pies – Make delicious pies, and sell them for a donation. Use fresh fruits and seasonal flavors.

Potluck Lunches in the Workplace – Ask your employer if you can raise funds by naming every Wednesday “Clean Air Challenge Potluck Day.” Team members take turns preparing dishes and offer to feed coworkers for a set price or donation.

Quilts – Sell quilt squares made by friends and coworkers. The squares can be sold in honor or in memory of people touched by lung disease.

Romance – Auction off a romantic dinner. Either prepare the meal yourself, or seek a donated meal from a local restaurant.

Sign up – Sign up at CleanAirChallengeAk.org, set up your personal fundraising page, and send emails to everyone you know asking them to join your team or make a donation. It’s easy!
**Turkey Dinner** – Around the holidays, organize a festive turkey dinner for your coworkers, and ask for a donation to attend.

**Unique Boutique** – Collect or make one-of-a-kind items, and raise funds via a silent or live auction.

**Vacation Day** – If you are on a team with your coworkers, ask your boss if you can offer a bonus day off for the team member who raises the most money.

**Wall of Hope** – Designate a wall for display at work or in your community. Each time you collect a donation, provide a card for the donor to write their name on, and add it to the wall. Create a competition between colleagues or team members to get the most cards on the wall.

**Wine Tasting** – As with any fundraiser – but especially with this one – the wine must be donated, and all liquor liability laws must be followed.

**X-tra Special Holiday** – Create holiday decorations of all kinds, and offer them for donations to your team.

**Yoga** – Work with a local yoga or cycle studio to host a special one-time class, or a weekly class, where either all or a percentage of the proceeds benefit your team.

**Zzzz** – Work with your boss to plan one day where all team members are allowed to come in a half-hour late. Each member will pay a fee to sleep in.