

50 Corporate fundraising ideas

acorns

Your local children's hospice

1 Sports day

Pick a date, cross your fingers for good weather, and organise a school-style sports day on a grassy area near your office. You can make the activities as serious or as fun as you like – from hurdles to an egg and spoon race – just make sure that there is something for everyone to take part in.



2 Company car wash

Find some willing teammates who don't mind rolling their sleeves up and some colleagues with really dirty cars. Ask interested colleagues to make a donation and for their car registration at the same time, so you can be sure you're cleaning the right cars. At lunchtime, put your volunteers to work car washing in the office car park.



3 Skill bidding

Put up an A3 sheet of paper in your office kitchen or staff room and encourage your colleagues to list their skills on there. This could be anything from playing guitar to pottery. Other colleagues can then place bids on receiving a one-hour lesson with that person and their listed skill. This is a great way to share expertise and fundraise at the same time!

4 Film night

Book a room or local hall with a projector screen and grab some blankets and film snacks like popcorn and pick and mix to turn it into a cinema! You could ask colleagues to vote on which film they would most like to watch, then charge for entry and all-you-can-eat access to the snacks.

5 Spare change bucket

This idea will raise money throughout the year, with minimal effort. Use branded, sealable collection buckets and place them in areas of your office people frequently walk past, like the kitchen, reception, and meeting rooms. Colleagues can drop spare change into the buckets whenever they walk past.



6 Company tuck shop

Everyone has fond memories of the tuck shop at school, so why not recreate it? Order some sweets, chocolate and crisps in bulk (try somewhere like Cash & Carry for discounts) and sell these for a suggested donation to your colleagues.

7 Bingo

Organise a bingo night and charge all of the entrants a fee to take part. Split the entry donation between the winner and Acorns.

8 Dress down day/Themed dress days

Ask everyone who dresses down; comes in their Superhero, Hat Day, Christmas Jumper or 'Go Orange For Acorns' outfit to give a donation, all of which can go straight to Acorns.

9 Matched giving

Ask your HR department if the company operates a matched giving policy. This is when the company would match the amount of money that you fundraise, doubling your total!

10 Guess the sweets

Fill a jar with sweets and ask your colleagues to guess how many sweets are in the jar. Charge a small fee to enter and give the jar of sweets to whoever guesses the closest number.

11 Office etiquette

Write up a funny list of things you want to stop people in the office from doing, like sending unnecessary emails or going to make tea without offering to get a cup for anyone else. Set a 24-hour ban on any of these things happening and get a donation from anyone who breaks it! Make sure to get permission and keep the list in good humour.



12 Sweepstake

Choose a big sporting event everyone in the office enjoys watching and discussing, like the Olympics or Wimbledon. Arrange a sweepstake where colleagues draw names from a hat before the event starts. Whoever has the winning name at the end of the sporting event takes half of the entry money.

13 Charity birthdays

If your office is really getting into the fundraising spirit, you could consider swapping birthday celebrations for a charitable donation. So instead of buying cake and a card, give some money to Acorns in honour of the birthday person.

14 Job swap

Arrange a day where everyone in your team swaps jobs with a colleague. Make sure to run this past HR first – it might not be the most productive day for getting work done! Have collection buckets on hand all day for people to make donations to Acorns.

15 Bring and buy

Ask your team to bring in any unwanted items from home that are still in good condition – clothes, books, DVDs, board games, and children's toys are all great for this. Price all the items with suggested donation amount. Book a room for your pop-up store, and invite everyone along for some second-hand shopping. If you've got any items left at the end of the day, donate them to one of Acorns charity shops.



16 Karaoke night

Warm up your vocal chords and take the team to a local karaoke night. Charge suggested donation to enter.

17 Raffle

Gather together some fantastic prizes and hold a raffle where people have the chance to win them. If you can't spend lots of money on raffle prizes, see if local shops might donate some. You can always include prizes that don't cost you anything, for example, a week using the best office car park space or with permission, a extra free day of annual leave.

18 Packed lunch day

Encourage everyone to make their lunch at home for a day and bring in a packed lunch. Ask them to donate what they would have paid at the office canteen or local shop or cafe to Acorns.

19 Exercise classes

If your office has a gym nearby, ask one of the trainers to run an exercise class for charity. Charge everyone a little bit more than the class would normally cost, and donate all of the extra money to Acorns. You could hold a couple of different classes, like yoga, boxing and dance, so that there's something for everybody!

20 Sponsored silence

Cut the chatter in the office completely and get your team involved in a sponsored silence for the day. Everyone involved could ask their friends and family for donations.

21 Spa day

There is bound to be a budding hair stylist, nail technician, or make-up artist in your team. Advertise their services and suggested donations and ask colleagues to book slots with them one Friday afternoon.

22 Donate your pay

Ask some of the managers and directors in your team if they would be happy to donate a day's pay to Acorns. This is a great way for them to get involved if they are too busy to come to your other fundraisers.



23 Lunch and learn

Find a few people in your team who have a skill they can share, an interesting story to tell, or even a topic they could deliver a talk on. Ask them to prepare an hour long session and invite colleagues to make a donation to join in at lunchtime.

24 Bacon butties breakfast

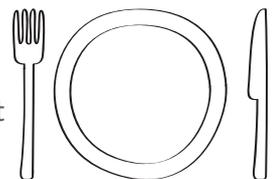
If people are moaning about the 9am meeting you have all been booked into, seize the opportunity for some fundraising! Pick up some bacon/vegetarian alternative sandwiches, then offer them up to your colleagues for a set donation. Subtract the cost from whatever you raise, then give the rest to Acorns Children's Hospice.

25 Get cycling

Put the call out for someone to bring an exercise bike into the office and see how long it takes you and your colleagues to cycle the equivalent distance of somewhere in your local area. So if your office is in London, challenge yourselves to cycle the length of the Thames (184 miles)! Anyone who wants to take part can put their name down and ask their friends and family for sponsorship. Those who don't fancy getting sweaty in the office can enjoy watching and donating.

26 Come dine with me

Take advantage of departmental rivalry and ask each team to host a lunch. Everyone who joins in can give a donation and rate the lunch out of 10. At the end of the week, tally up the totals and announce the winning team.



27 *Fancy dress*

Pick a theme and ask everyone to dress up and donate. Why not ask everyone to come into the office dressed as their 15-year-old self for some real fun!

28 *Scavenger hunt*

This one is great around Easter or Christmas time. Hide some themed, edible treats around the office and charge each team who enters a fee to take part. Give each team some clues to try and find the treats. The team to gather the most items wins and gets to eat what they have found.



29 *Skip the snacks*

If your office has a real sweet tooth, you could try ditching the snacks for a week and donate all the money that you would have spent to Acorns instead. Try this out in January when people are usually on a health kick anyway, it will give them some added motivation!

30 *Email signatures*

Set up an online donations page for Acorns and include the link in your email signatures. It is a good way to remind internal colleagues why you are fundraising. Also, you might also get some donations from generous, external contacts!

31 *Jailbreak*

This works best if you have got a willing and well-connected manager. Shut them in a boardroom with only their mobile phone and promise that they can come out once they have raised a set amount in donations for Acorns from their major contacts.



32 *Silent disco*

Ask everyone to bring along their phones and headphones and hold a silent disco in your meeting room. Dim the lights and get a disco ball involved for extra atmosphere!

33 *A close shave*

You could organise sponsored waxing for any willing participants. Book a space where you will have lots of room for onlookers and keep passing donation buckets around. Remember to film the event so that you have video evidence!

34 *Games night*

Wack out any board games you have – Cluedo, Monopoly, Jenga, Twister, the lot – and host an office games night. Split into teams so that everyone gets to have a go on the different games.

35 *Get crafty*

It's possible that you have some budding creatives in your team that you don't know about. Put a call out via email for anyone to donate some of their artwork or crafts to an office charity auction.



36 *Buzzword jar*

Set up a buzzword jar or acronym jar in the office so that any time somebody uses some of the well-known buzzwords or acronyms, they need to make a donation.

37 *Pizza lunch*

Order in some pizzas and ask everyone to make a donation for each slice of pizza they have. Let the pizza company know you are holding a charity lunch and you might even get a discount!



38 *Office Olympics*

Write down a list of Olympic activities relevant to your office and create an obstacle course that involves them all. The fastest colleague to complete the course is crowned the winner. The activities could be anything from photocopying, to unpacking boxes – just make sure it's within health and safety regulations.

39 *Afternoon tea*

Prepare some delicious afternoon tea nibbles, such as scones, cakes and finger sandwiches. Charge a suggested entry fee to anyone who wants to come along. Decorate the meeting room with bunting if you want to jazz it up a bit.



40 *Sponsored pledges*

Ask your colleagues to pledge to give something up for a week or a month, in exchange for sponsorship from their teammates. For example, the office chocoholic could give up chocolate and the person who can't function without a coffee could give up caffeine.

41 *Bid for the boss*

See if any of your team leaders and executives would be willing to auction off a lunchtime slot with them. There might be a lot of people in the office keen to spend some time speaking with them and suggesting new ideas for the company!



42 Promise auction

Ask everyone in your office to write down a promise of what they could do for someone else, such as baking them a cake or helping them put up some shelves. Auction off these promises to the highest bidder in the team and donate all of the money raised to Acorns.

43 Donut day

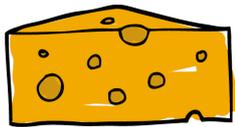
Get your hands on some well priced doughnuts and sell them to your office colleagues for a suggested donation.

44 Swimathon

Decide how long you would like to swim for and split up the lengths between colleagues. Participants can ask their family and friends to sponsor them. Invite people to come and watch and make sure to have those collection buckets to hand - you'll probably pick up some extra donations on the day.

45 Wine and cheese night

Hold a wine and cheese tasting night after work. You can charge a little more for this than other activities. Also, make sure to cover the cost of buying the wine and cheese! Your colleagues are sure to love it.



46 Foreign coin exchange

Let all your colleagues know that you'll be collecting foreign coins up to give the money to charity. If they have got any currency from past holidays, they can give it to you, and you'll exchange it into pounds to donate to Acorns.



47 Summer BBQ

As the weather gets warmer and the days get longer, a BBQ is the perfect way to fundraise and celebrate summer. Find an outdoor space close to the office and ask everyone to bring a dish and donate to Acorns Children's Hospice.

48 Picnic

If you do not have appropriate facilities for a BBQ, then organise a picnic instead. You could ask your employer if there is any budget to cover the costs of the food.

49 Silent lunchtime quiz

Charge a suggested donation to enter and try to secure a great donated prize. Ask everyone to write down their answers, no talking or chattering. The person with the most correct answers wins the prize and the donations are given to Acorns Children's Hospice.

50 Challenge events

Enter into one of Acorns exciting Challenge events. Check out our events calendar at acorns.org.uk/events

Getting your donations to us

Pay it in online or by cheque

By paying your donations in online at acorns.org.uk/pay-in-your-money, you'll be saving Acorns money in processing fees. Please make cheques payable to 'Acorns Children's Hospice' and return to: Supporter Services, Acorns Children's Hospice, Drakes Court, Alcester Road, Wythall, Birmingham, B47 6J.

Gift Aid

Where applicable, don't forget to ask people to Gift Aid their donation if they are a UK taxpayer. Gift Aid is a scheme introduced by HM Revenue and Customs which allows Acorns to claim an extra 25p for every £1 donated. For further information visit acorns.org.uk/sign-up-to-gift-aid

Set up a Just Giving page

JustGiving pages are a quick, simple and secure way to collect donations. It's easy to share your story, raise funds and track your fundraising using this online tool.

Get in touch

If you have any questions or need any assistance please don't hesitate to get in touch by emailing partnerships@acorns.org.uk or calling **01564 825 037**