

Games and Contests

“Fear Factor” Game

Group of executives are challenged to face off in events ranging from eating food blindfolded to picking items out of jars full of worms.

Identify the Baby Photo Contest

Employees bring in a favorite baby picture, writing their name on the backside. Pictures are numbered and posted on a bulletin board. Employees purchase a chance to match co-workers with baby pictures. When purchasing a chance, give purchaser a numbered sheet with blanks to write their guesses. Have them put their own name at the top and turn in. Employee with the greatest number correct wins a prize!

Indoor Mini Golf

This indoor event is great for swinging away those winter blues! To make the event a contest, have each department design a creative hole using only materials already in their department. Examples include: wastebaskets, letter trays, reams of paper, machine parts, etc. If possible include a shot from the roof. The employee committee rounds up some clubs and staffs the course during the lunch hour for the week of the campaign. Employees play the course as often as they like for a small fee. Prizes are awarded to the department with the most creative hole and to the best mini golfers.

Kiss Our Community

Purchase a large helium balloon in the shape of kissing lips and attach the balloon to a gift wrapped brick. Lay this ‘kiss’ on the desk of one of your co-workers and let the fun begin. Each person that gets ‘kissed’ will need to make a donation to your cause. For example, they could donate \$1 to remove the kiss from their office and return to the coordinator; donate \$2 to remove the kiss and THEY get to choose the next person to kiss; a \$3 donation allows someone to steal the kiss from the current victim and choose the next person to kiss; a \$25.00 donation means they will never be ‘kissed’ again. Those who have donated \$25 will get a notice on their door/desk so everyone is aware of who is still kissable. Be sure to put a time limit on moving the kiss so it will not sit on one desk too long.

Let the Race Begin

For this auto-racing theme, create a large goal poster that looks like an Indy racetrack to set the pace of your campaign race. Use Velcro cars to measure progress along the track as the company moves closer to the finish of the campaign. Decorate main room with race flags, jerseys and racing posters. Hold your own race with radio-controlled cars in the parking lot.

Life is Not a Spectator Sport - Go the Distance

At the start of the campaign, hold a kick-off meeting explaining touchdowns (accomplishments of previous years), penalties and receptions (areas needing improvement), and huddles (ideas for the coming campaign). To launch the campaign, hold a tailgate party in the parking lot or at a park. Arrange to have the party at the same time as a local baseball game and cheer on your home team. Throughout the campaign hold sport fundraisers such as a slam dunk/shootout contest, volleyball tournament, football toss, etc. Rubber Ducks, Gophers, Vikings or Wild tickets or tickets for other local teams make great prizes.

Movie Trivia Quiz

This quiz can be completed at workstations & returned to an appointed person to tally the scores. You can match the actor/actress with the movie, match the quote with the movie, or combine. The highest score wins a prize. In case of a tie, a drawing will be held. Winners can be announced at a group lunch at the close of the campaign.

The Price is Right

Let employees guess the “retail value” of services provided by United Way’s funded agencies. The one who guesses closest without going over gets to come on down to play a game based on the classic Price is Right game show.

Pumpkin Decorating Contest

Employees form teams and create their own unique design using pumpkins. The pumpkins are displayed in the company cafeteria and employees vote for their favorite pumpkin by placing money in that team’s container. The winning team is awarded a prize pack containing gift certificates and other goodies.

Jeopardy

Have 5 - 10 answers about United Way, the agencies, etc., on a board. Make up play cards/answer sheets and have the employees write down the questions & drop them in the box.

Wheel of Fortune

Have several puzzles related to United Way, such as the campaign chair, funded programs, theme for that year, etc., (give them vowels for free) and have employees write down their guesses & drop them in the box.

Family Feud

Using a statement from the campaign materials like: “United Way agencies that support Aging People.” Have the employees list the agencies on a sheet (assign equal points to them).

Who Wants To Be A Millionaire

From the list of donors, draw out names randomly to be the contestants? Ask them to name three United Way agencies that help kids (or aging adults, families, etc.) Whoever writes them down the fastest and raises the paper in the air gets to play first. Using the United Way brochure or website, put together some questions about United Way and the agencies for the contest. (Call the United Way office if you need help.) Use play money for prizes.

In Bad Taste

Executive team members wear their ugliest ties, jewelry, shoes or hats. Employees vote for the ugliest item, paying \$1 per vote. The executive with the most votes at day’s end is declared the winner and may be awarded a prize.

Look-A-Like Contest

Employees are encouraged to dress up like famous personalities. Co-workers then pay to vote on the best costume with the contestant receiving the most votes winning a prize.

Department Penny Jar

Each department is designated a jar. Employees are encouraged to fill their own department's jar with pennies, each equaling one point. Opposing departments may then add other coins to their jars that are equal to their value only negative (ex: A dime is minus 10 points). The department with the most positive points at the end of the week is awarded a prize.

Tug-of-War

Have an interdepartmental competition. Each team pays a fee for entry with the winning team winning a prize.

Kiss the Pig

Employees vote through contributions to executive labeled piggy banks for the boss who must kiss the pig.

Traveling Trophy

Companies with multiple locations have found that using a traveling trophy generates friendly competition and is a great sign of pride for the location. Trophies may be used for any number of contests including location with the highest participation, raising the most special event dollars, etc.

Silent Auction

Simply gather items and create bid sheets, being certain to provide a minimum bid for each item.

Dress-up the Boss

Boss wears a costume voted on by all employees if the campaign goal is reached. Examples: tutu, animal costume, devil costume, etc.

Guess How Many

Guess the number of jellybeans, M&Ms, pennies or other items in a jar. Buy chances to guess. Closest guess receives a prize.

Recycled Goods

Turn in recycled paper, cans, bottles, etc. and exchange them for money for the United Way.

Best Photo Contest

Employees submit photographs taken at campaign and celebration events. Photos are displayed on a bulletin board and judged by committee, with the best photo receiving prizes such as a new camera, photo album, or a camera carrying case.

Food Fight

Divide into two or more teams and elect captains. Team members collect money and turn in to captain. Team raising the most money is awarded a pizza/sub party, which they may verbally throw into their competitor's faces.

Tourney Time

Hold a broomball, softball, tee-ball, kickball, racquetball, tennis, volleyball or ping-pong tournament.

Karaoke Contest

Hold a contest to determine who has the best and worst karaoke talent. Coworkers may buy votes ahead of time to elect the “Star of the Show” who will sing the first song. Charge an entrance fee for the show.

Jail and Bail

Hold in correlation with an employee picnic or carnival. Have a “Catch and Cuff ‘Em” Jail booth where employees pay to have co-workers, supervisors, managers or executives incarcerated for short periods during the event.

Slogan Contest

Employees develop in-house campaign slogans/themes. The committee picks the top ten, which are then voted on by the entire company, the winner receiving an award.

Teambuilding

Reach for the Goal

Tie together the title with an Olympic theme. The company wins the gold medal when the campaign goal is reached. Create a poster with a bronze, silver and gold medal goal. The Opening Ceremonies are the kick-off to the campaign, explaining the goal and theme. Symbolic passing of the torch from last year’s campaign chair to the new chairperson.

Hold a mini-Olympics with employees forming teams of three or more. Events include hula hoop relay, tricycle race, basketball dribble, tug-of-war, 100-yard dash, mile relay, and sack race.

Winter Olympic events include cross-country ski relay, the luge (fastest sled), tug-of-war in the snow, best snow sculpture, team member’s push-pull each other in a sled race and snow football. Charge an entry fee for teams, offering prizes for the winning team along with souvenir gold medals. Conclude the Olympic campaign with an awards ceremony, awarding Olympic winners as well as all employees for their campaign efforts.

Tricycle Races

Create teams each with of three to four riders. Teams are named and publicized in advance, allowing employees to make pledges or bets on the winning team. Team members ride large tricycles (rent or arrange to borrow from a cooperating store) through a predetermined course through the office. Possibilities include: through hallways, lunch/break rooms, around cubicles, chairs, and in and out of offices. Have course marked with signs or tape on the floor. Fans are able to watch and cheer from different areas around the office. The race is designed as a relay. Team members may pass off a flag, pinwheel, teddy bear or similar item to their succeeding team member. Remember to take pictures for the company bulletin board or newsletter!