

# Special Event Ideas



## Entertainment Drive & Sale

Employees donate new or slightly used books, videos, DVDs, board games, puzzles, etc. and hold a sale to benefit United Way of Greater Greensboro.

## Dress Down Day, Casual Day, or “Jeans Day”

Employees pay to not wear “normal” work attire. Get as casual as needed: jeans, tennis shoes, sports apparel, hats, etc. As an added bonus: sell United Way t-shirts and allow employees to wear those shirts on casual day.

## Bake Sale

Employees buy employee-donated baked goods with donations benefiting United Way.

## Build Your Own Ice Cream Sundaes

Have a wide variety of sundae toppings (nuts, fruit, cookies, gummy bears, crushed candy bars, whipped cream, cherries, etc.) available for employees to build their own sundaes.

## Ice Cream Cart

On a hot day, visit employee cubicles and offices selling popsicles, ice cream sandwiches and other cold snacks. Donate proceeds to United Way.

## Tricycle Race

Teams race in relay format around the office parking lot on small bikes. Employees bet on which team they think will win. All bets go to United Way.

## Golf Putt

Supply a putting green and club. Employees pay per putt for a chance to win prizes.

## Silent Auction

The company donates auction items such as furniture, printers, computers, company apparel, etc. Employees can also donate items/services. All proceeds go to United Way.

## Paid Parking

Raffle/Auction off a year’s (or other amount of time) worth of free parking.

## Lunch with CEO

Auction or raffle off lunch with the CEO – CEO’s treat!

## Extra Day Vacation

Raffle/Auction off a day or ½ day of vacation.

## Jail

Construct and decorate a jail made of cardboard. Managers are sentenced to the office jail for a determined amount of time or until they raise a set amount of bail money.

## Guess the Number

Fill a clear jar with candy and have employees pay for a chance to guess the number of pieces in the jar. The most accurate guess wins the candy or another prize.

## Penny Wars

Divide the office by department and have a money jar assigned to each. Members of each department deposit pennies, nickels and dimes into their own jar and place quarters or bills into the jars of other departments. Pennies count as positive while quarters and bills are negative. The department with the highest positive number (or often the case, the least negative number) wins a lunch provided by the company.

## Guess the Baby Picture

Employees bring their baby pictures to work and post the photos a few days prior to the event. Contestants pay to enter the contest and pay to match employees to their baby pictures. The employee with the highest number of correct matches wins a prize.

## Chili Cook-off

Participants pay to enter their chili into the contest. Choose judges and determine prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. After judging, employees can pay to sample each chili.

## Donut Eating Contest

Employees raise money for United Way by sponsoring contenders on a per-donut-eaten basis. The winner is determined by either eating the most donuts in a time frame or the first to finish a set number of donuts.

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## **Karaoke Contest**

Each location, department or team nominates one employee to sing a song. Choose a variety of music or “spotlight” a particular theme of music. The winner is chosen by audience applause or a panel of judges.

## **Balloon Pop Surprise**

Put a prize note in each balloon (soda, jeans day, gift card, candy bar, sports tickets, etc.) Be sure to have one big prize. Place balloons in a contained area and have participants pay to pop balloons for prizes.

## **Company Cookout or Picnic**

Hold a carnival or outdoor picnic complete with entertainment, agency booths, drawings, local celebrities, dunking booths, cakewalks and on-site radio remote.

## **Snack Sale**

Sell food (popcorn, drinks, baked goods, candy, etc.)

## **Lunch ‘n Learn**

Invite an agency speaker and provide lunch for a lunch-time workshop on a topic of interest.

## **Hold an Art Fair or Book Fair**

A great way to raise money and provide a fun shopping experience for employees.

## **Dunking Booth**

Charge per ball to dunk an executive or manager.

## **Theme Baskets**

Each department within your company sponsors a theme basket (golf, chocolate, day of pampering, etc.) by purchasing products to fill it up. The baskets are then auctioned off via live or silent auction.

## **Executive Car Wash**

Executives or managers agree to wash cars for donations to United Way.

## **Make a “Community Quilt”**

Provide construction paper, markers, magazines, etc. Have employees make a collage related to United Way on your campaign theme. Tie all the squares together with yarn at a rally, and display proudly!

## **You Make the Music**

Hold a jingle-writing contest using this theme. The top five winning jingles can be sung to employees by the writers/composers during a company-wide United Way campaign meeting, or have your top company execs perform the jingles.

## **Funniest Home/Office Videos**

Encourage employees to bring their funniest videos from home, or create new ones at work! An entry fee can be charged, and be sure to offer a prize to the winner. Winning videos can be featured at your campaign kick-off or close.

## **“Beach Bash”**

Decorate cafeteria or break room with beach balls, etc. Serve hot dogs and fruit kabobs. Tell everyone to wear their favorite “Hawaiian shirt” and then vote on the best one. Award prizes for the best outfits.