**Book/Video Sale**
Employees donate their old books, videos, CDs and DVDs for an employee book sale. Sell paperbacks for $1, hardbacks for $2 and CDs, DVDs and videos for up to $5.

**Carnation Trade**
Local florists donate flowers that employees can buy for $2 to send to co-workers. Try the same event with cookies or candy as a variation, with employees donating the cookies for the event. Interested employees pay $1 to send a cookie and a note to friends or co-workers in the organization just to say thanks.

**Casual Day**
Sell “Casual Day” stickers allowing employees to purchase them so they can dress casually on certain days. United Way stickers may be ordered from your UW contact or design and order your own. Designate certain casual days as “Crazy Days” and encourage your employees to show their wild side:

- **Tuesday** – Silly Hat Day
- **Wednesday** – Outrageous Socks Day
- **Thursday** – Sports Team Day

**Coin War**
Each department/floor has an empty water bottle (The BIG kind). Employees drop their spare dimes, nickels and pennies into the bottle. These coins are counted as positive. Paper money counts as negative. Employees may “sabotage” another Department’s bottle by dropping a quarter into their bottle. At the end of the campaign, both positive and negative coins are counted, and the group with the most $$$ raised wins. All proceeds go to United Way.

**Employee Cook Book**
Collect and group recipes and helpful household hints into a customized cookbook. Employees’ children create illustrations for the cookbook, including the cover. Print or copy and bind books. This event has been so popular that some organizations have not been able to fill all requests. Plan for an enthusiastic response! Books sell on average between $12 and $20.
Scavenger Hunts
Employees participate in a scavenger hunt that requires them to find unusual items from around the neighborhood or office building, as well as to demonstrate community knowledge. You can “plant” items with selected employees for others to “discover.” Teams of four, their choice, pay a group entrance fee. If each team member has a different job title, automatically award them 10 bonus points. Teams have one hour to accumulate as many points as possible. The entire team must be present at the end of one hour. If a team arrives late, assess a penalty of 2 points per minute (or fraction thereof). Award winners something special just for their team!

Employee Raffle
Ask employees to contribute something special for a raffle prize:
- Home made pies
- One-day vacation or time off
- Lunch with a co-worker
- Donated prizes
- Car wash
- Tickets to a special event
- Weekend stay at a vacation cabin or condominium

Employees make contributions using a raffle donation form. Those employees turning in pledge forms early receive three raffle tickets. Employees turning in pledge forms after the “early” date, but before the campaign’s final event, receive one raffle ticket. Use these ideas as incentive for other fund-raisers.

CEO Carwash
Employees donate $5 to have their car washed by their “Boss.” Charge extra for special services like cleaning the interior or polishing the rims. Upgrade to a Scrub & Grub! For $10, get your car washed and get lunch!

Miniature Golf
Build a 9-hole course featuring slinkys, ramps, water and sand traps around the office laid out to test the skills of your employees. The lowest score (which may be decided by tie-breaker) will take home a tacky golfing sport coat. Interested twosomes return an entry form, bring a putter the day of the event and pay an appropriate entry fee:
- $25 for twosomes of upper management
- $15 for twosomes of middle management
- $10 for twosomes of all other staff

Try a “Golfing in America” theme with each hole highlighting a different state or city (e.g., a hole-in-one in a Hawaiian volcano, a birdie in Boise, sand traps in Arizona).

Variation: Closest to the Pin -- if there is a grassy area near your work, have a “closest to the pin” contest with golf balls. Charge $1-$5 per ball.

Executive Chair Race (or “Exec-U-Glide”)
Set-up relay course for executives to go through sitting in chairs or riding tricycles. Use a stopwatch to time contestants, with the best time winning a prize. Observers wager $1 on their favorite contestants.
FUNDRAISING IDEAS

Kiss the Pig/Cow/Llama
If employees reach their goal, a manager or the CEO agrees to kiss a pig or cow, OR their choice of species from a local zoo (arrange with the zoo first).

Karaoke Party
This has the potential of being a BIG fundraiser and a GREAT team builder! Participants pay $2 to enter, and are given a list of songs and a pledge sheet in advance. Participants ask employees to support them by pledging an amount of money. At the event, have a big box of funny hats, boas and other costume items available for participants to use. Pass the hat at the party to receive even more pledges!

NOTE: A variation on this activity is “Executive Karaoke.” Employees pay money for executives to get up and sing the song of their choice. Videotape the event and sell copies as well.

Vacation Day
Many coordinators say this event easily guarantees almost 100% participation. Employees “buy” a vacation day. When an employee participates, their wages from a day’s work are deducted from their paycheck; the organization can choose to match the amount deducted.

Lunch Auction
Different departments donate lunches to auction every day for a week. Use your organization’s intercom system, e-mail or other communication system to temptingly auction the lunches. Employees call in with their bids. A variation of this event is to have employees pay $5 for the “boss” to deliver coffee and muffins to them, with all proceeds going to your campaign.

White Elephant Sale
Employees donate unique “white elephant” gifts that others can buy at affordable prices. This is especially popular at carnivals.

Trivial Pursuit Match
Create a pool around the winning team and give all employees who bet on the winners a prize. Hold the challenge during a staff meeting. Give the event a game show flavor with participants using bicycle horns if the answer is known.
### Chili Cook-Off Contest

Employees cook their favorite chili recipe and enter it into a cook-off contest. This activity can also add “spike” to a Community Fair. A panel of chili experts selects the Official Chili Champion.

### Halloween Pumpkin Carving Contest

Plan a Halloween theme and hold a pumpkin-carving contest. Employees enter carved pumpkins individually or by group. Charge $5 to enter and $1 per vote. Award prizes in various categories:
- Best traditional pumpkin
- Most creative pumpkin
- Best effort by a group
- Best effort by an individual

### International Food Day

Employees team together to create tasty treats from around the world. Employees decorate their own booths and dress in appropriate costumes. Hold the event before the lunchhour, allowing employees to purchase tickets redeemable for food at the booths. A panel of “celebrity” judges awards prizes.

### Executive Fantasy Auction

Executives at your organization create “fantasy” packages, which employees can bid on at a special auction. Packages include fishing trips, dinners or movie tickets. Executives also auction their special “services”
- Cooking the winning bidder a special dish
- Singing at a wedding, party or special event
- Changing the winner’s car oil
- Babysitting the winner’s children
- Washing the winner’s car
- Washing the winner’s windows
- Parking space for a week

### Prizes and Incentives

- Volunteer chauffeur ride to work for a week
- Time Off (i.e. two hours on Friday afternoon)
- Free potted plants every month for a year
- Free meals at a local restaurant
- Movie Passes
- Lottery Tickets
- Gift Certificates
- Free Oil Change
- Free Hotel Stays
- Free Babysitting
- Half-Day Vacation
- Call in “well” day
- Sleep-in-late Awards
- Prime Parking Spaces
- Professional Massages

### Ice Cream Social

Set up an ice cream bar with a variety of flavors and toppings in your lunch room/cafeteria. Charge $1 for one scoop, $2 for two, plus extras.