

Sanfilippo  
Children's Foundation



**A-Z  
FUNDRAISING  
IDEAS**

# A-Z FUNDRAISING IDEAS

## ASK

The easiest way to raise money is to ASK your friends, neighbours, colleagues, relatives and anyone you know to make a tax-deductible donation. Explain your commitment to the cause, why you're involved and how a donation will help make a difference.

## ARTS & CRAFT STALL

Let your imagination go wild—try making greeting cards, scarves or jewellery to sell. Ask a group of friends to help you make things. Sell at work, school, university, online or at local markets. Many markets offer a charity stall rate or may even donate a space.

## AUCTION

Get your contacts and local businesses to donate items for your auction. Contact local sports teams/grounds for signed goods, local restaurants for vouchers or beauticians/hairdressers/travel agents in your area. Auction items off on FB, using free auction sites such as [32auctions.com](https://www.32auctions.com) or simply eBay it!

## BOOK SALE

Collect second hand books and hold a giant book sale. Contact your local Council to see if they can offer a discounted rate on hall hire. Your school or workplace could also be suitable venues. Boost fundraising with a BBQ and if it's a warm day, sell drinks to patrons as they browse.

## BAREFOOT BOWLS

A summer social event where guests can enjoy a few drinks and some competitive fun. Contact your local 'Bowlo' and book a date. Some bowling clubs will allow you to do a BBQ, include a jumping castle for kids or even hire a band. Sell tickets and promote far and wide.

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## BUNNINGS BBQ

Bunnings barbecues are one of the easiest and most effective ways to reach your fundraising commitment. Get in early and book with your local Bunnings Warehouse. We can help you with the required paperwork for your application. Some Bunnings stores also offer cake stalls, so ask the activities coordinator and book early!

## BUSKING

A certain amount of talent is necessary if you want to earn more than a couple of bottle-tops and some evil looks but this can be a good little money maker. Think about places around universities, public transport hubs or shops where people would enjoy some light entertainment.

## BINGO

Bingo is enormous fun and appeals to young and old. Host an adult bingo night with BYO alcohol or a 'dry' event for kids. Charge admission, sell bingo cards as well as drinks and snacks or pizza. There are many entertaining bingo callers such as [www.boganbingo.com](http://www.boganbingo.com) or in some cities Drag Queen Bingo. You could end the night with a live band or disco.

## CAKE STALL

Get baking and sell your cakes at school/work/local sports clubs. Contact local bakeries/supermarkets/Krispy Kreme to see what you can get for free or at discount – and sell for a profit. Try to keep costs low: Ask friends to volunteer, donate ingredients, or to bake you a batch of something sweet!

## CASINO/ CARD NIGHT

Host at home or hire a venue for a casino-themed gaming or card night. Sell guests chips, tokens or 'play money' to play roulette, blackjack or poker. You won't need a permit so long as the chips used cannot be redeemed for cash. Double-check gaming rules in your state or territory.. Charge admission and boost funds with raffle tickets, snacks or drink sales.

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## COCKTAIL NIGHT

Get your friends together for a night of delicious cocktails and get mixing at home! That way, money goes to your cause, instead of the bar! Ask friends to bring along a bottle of alcohol, mixer or fruit. (They can even raid the alcohol cupboard at home.) Sell tickets or ask friends to donate what they would have spent on a night out.

## DINNER PARTY

Hosting a dinner party in your home can be a fun way to fundraise and needn't be fancy. Pre-prepare as much food as possible and keep your menu simple. Maybe theme your cuisine by country e.g. Mexican or Japanese or arrange a giant razing table. Sell tickets or ask friends to donate what they would have spent on a night out.

## DISCO

Who can't resist a boogie? A disco can be a fun fundraiser for kids or for grownups - or both! Halls are cheap to hire and DJs will often donate their time for a cause. Theme it by musical era (70s, 80s, 90s) or Studio 54. Charge admission, sell glow products, drinks and snacks. Make a short speech to educate people about the cause and call for more donations.

## DOG WALKING

Group dog walks are often for animal charities but don't let that stop you. If you have a pooch and access to a local dog park, you could organise a day out. Host a BBQ, do a doggy parade, sell doggy merchandise or pet portraits. Auction yourself off as a dog-walker and donate your fees to the Sanfilippo cause!

## DRESS UP DAY

Go mufti or choose a theme. Get your office or school to wear their favourite sports team, crazy socks or a hat of their choice. Ask for a note or gold coin donation and send around the hat. Try to coincide with a team lunch, and while you have a captive and engaged audience, sell raffle tickets and seek donations to your page!

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## EASTER EGG HUNT

An indoor or outdoor Easter Egg hunt at your school or workplace could easily have a fundraising component. Charge colleagues to play, use the office space or a local park, dress as a bunny and raffle of a giant basket of eggs. ANZAC Day usually follows Easter so there could be further opportunity for fundraising (ANZAC biscuits sales or a BBQ).

## FACE PAINTING

Face painting usually works best at a larger event (BBQ or fair). It's a cheap and cheerful activity and a nice little money-spinner wherever there are large crowds of children. Many fairies, clowns and other entertainers will also face-paint. Explain the cause – childhood dementia – and they may even donate their time and come along.

## FORTUNE-TELLING EVENING

Dust off your crystal ball for a cause. Psychics, clairvoyants and tarot card readers can be hired for a fee to attend a lunch or evening event at your home or a bigger venue. Charge guests an entry fee. Provide finger food or have a sit-down dinner and increase your fee. It can be a great girls night!

## GARAGE SALE

Garage sales are a 'low-cost, no-cost' event. If it's a hot day, you can sell drinks (soft drinks, cakes or have a lemonade stand), and you will have a captive audience as you talk to people about the cause and your challenge. Get the neighbours onboard and maybe have a street sale.

## GIVE SOMETHING UP

Sponsored abstinence fundraisers get people's attention and raise awareness and funds. Give up watching footy, say no to chocolate, or take a digital or social media detox for a month. The trick is to abstain from something you are publicly known to love. Promote the challenge to your network and seek sponsorship.

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## HALLOWEEN PARTY

Halloween is growing in popularity here in Australia and has significant fundraising potential for kids and adults. Sell pumpkins, host a Halloween disco for kids in your neighbourhood instead of trick and treating, organise a dress up competition or spooky cake sale at work, or maybe a horror-themed ticketed event for grownups.

## HIRE SERVICES

Do you have a skill you can auction or sell? Are you a budding photographer, lawn mower extraordinaire, or great window washer? Maybe you own an amazing holiday house you can raffle or a vintage car, boat or motorbike you can take on joyrides? Think about what assets and special skills you already have in your toolbox.

## ICE CREAM SALE

Who can resist ice cream? This is a great summertime fundraising idea wherever there are large crowds. Organise a van to visit your school, sportsground or workplace? Ask if they will donate a percentage of sales.

## IN LIEU

Instead of buying gifts for birthdays, Christmas or anniversaries suggest people donate to your fundraising efforts. Ideally, get them to donate to your fundraising page. Think big: email friends a link and promote across your personal social media. You can also create a FB Birthday fundraiser. Download our how-to guide at [www.sanfilippo.org.au/birthdaywish](http://www.sanfilippo.org.au/birthdaywish)

## KARAOKE NIGHT

Host an 'Idol'-style Karaoke night. All you need is a Karaoke machine (relatively cheap to buy or hire), a hall and a passionate crowd of singers and supporters. Charge admission, and get people to nominate/challenge others to sing by sponsoring them. Maybe photograph or film the singing then charge for people to buy copies of their performance.

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## LEMONADE STAND

Invite your kids or friends to make and sell lemonade and treats from your front yard. A traditional lemonade stand is a great way to introduce children to fundraising and a good excuse to get to know your neighbours. Ready, set, squeeze and sell!

## LOGIES NIGHT

Much-loved or much-loathed, the Logies is Australia's biggest night of television, and a good excuse for a get-together. Host a logies night at home and invite friends and family for dinner or drinks 'n' snacks while watching the awards night.. Send a hat around or host a mini raffle. Play some games: 'guess the winner of each category' and hand out your own Logie statuettes to guests.

## MAKEOVER EVENING

This is one way to pamper the ladies in your community. Host at work, home or school. Ask massage therapists, hairdressers or beauticians to donate their time. (Many will jump at the chance.) Charge admission, sell raffle tickets and educate guests about the cause. Make the most of everyone's makeover by going out for a drink or dinner afterwards –an additional fundraising opportunity!

## MORNING OR AFTERNOON TEA

Hosting morning tea in your workplace or home is a no-brainer. Ask friends and family to bake goodies.. Your co-workers won't be able to resist a tea or coffee break with cake. Advertise widely on FB or the work intranet. Charge by plate or ask for a note donation at the door.

## MOVIES

Host a movie night at home/work/school (outdoor with deck chairs and beanbags). Sell tickets, drinks and popcorn. Pick a flick theme or popular movie. It could be an old classic, not a new release. Most cinemas will also offer a fundraising package for advance screenings, donating a percentage of ticket sales to your cause. Hold a raffle as another revenue stream (get prizes donated from local business or friends).

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## MURDER MYSTERY NIGHT

This is a great add-on for a cocktail or dinner event. Host a small group at home, or at a hotel/hall/historic house. There are downloadable murder mystery games available online. See: [www.playingwithmurder.com](http://www.playingwithmurder.com). Encourage guests to dress in costumes and get into character. Theme the meal you serve. Charge admission or get guests to donate to your fundraising page.

## ODD JOBS

Similar to the slave-for-a-day concept, auction your services for an afternoon of odd jobs. Jobs could include car-washing, gardening, mowing the lawn, pet-minding, assisting with housework or running errands.

## PLANT SALE

Are you a budding green thumb? Host a plant sale at home/work/school or a hired hall. You'll need to plan and advertise well in advance to maximise growing time. If you know someone with an amazing garden ask to host it there as an 'open garden' event. Charge admission, offer a potting class and sell as many plants as you can. For inspiration, watch this video about Betty's plant sale: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MRbxF4huR4w>.

## RAFFLE

People can't resist a raffle and they're relatively easy to organise. Start by checking local laws and regulations. In NSW, for example, see: [www.fairtrading.nsw.gov.au](http://www.fairtrading.nsw.gov.au). There are plenty of websites that provide step-by-step instructions/printing services such as [rafflelink.com.au](http://rafflelink.com.au) or [raffletix.com.au](http://raffletix.com.au). The biggest effort will be sourcing prizes, so get creative and contact local businesses or ask your contacts to donate items.

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## RECIPE BOOK

Cookbook fundraisers are growing in popularity and are great for schools or workplaces where there is a large group of people to supply recipes and buy books. You can increase your revenue by allowing sponsors to advertise in your recipe book. Again, there are websites dedicated to recipe book publishing with downloadable templates such as [www.schoolyardstories.com.au](http://www.schoolyardstories.com.au) or [www.createacookbook.com.au](http://www.createacookbook.com.au)

## SAUSAGE SIZZLE

A sausage sizzle is a sure-fire way (pardon the pun) to raise some funds, Hold a sausage sizzle at your local sports club/school/workplace courtyard. Advertise widely, hire a BBQ, get sausages, bread and drinks donated where possible and onions . . . don't forget the onions, guaranteed to attract hungry hordes!

## SHAVE OR COLOUR

Gather your friends or colleagues together to shave off their leg hair, head hair or wear coloured hair spray for a day. The more the merrier, and combine with an office BBQ. Alternatively, create your own campaign via your fundraising page. Film some short videos explaining the cause and why you're shaving for Sanfilippo, film the shave and follow-up with a call for more donations.

## SPORTS DAY

Does your child's school host a sports day? Ask the P&C or school if you could do some fundraising for your cause there and split the proceeds: 50 % to school 50 % to Sanfilippo . Sell drinks or slushies, face paint in school's house colours or even sell coloured tutus to staff and students. Fundraising opportunities abound throughout the calendar – don't be afraid to team up or 'piggyback' on another fundraiser . . . just ask!

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## SWEAR JAR

Swear jars at home or in the office are a great way to clean up your language and collect some cash. A gold coin donation or note for expletives uttered during meetings could help boost your tally. Challenge your colleagues to clean up their language and get onboard.

## TALENT QUEST

A great fundraiser for the office or your sports club. There may well be some hidden talents in your team. Pick a date and a venue (consider hiring a hall) and hold some auditions. Keep costs low wherever possible. Is there a space in the workplace you could perform? Charge admission for the show. It's an opportunity for you to take to the stage too and explain the cause and the challenge you are undertaking.

## TRIVIA NIGHT

Everyone loves a little trivia and this inexpensive event will help you to rally the troops and boost your fundraising tally. Keep costs low by using work as a venue or hire a room in a pub.. There are plenty of how-to guides online for organising a successful trivia night. Do it well, and you will not only raise lots of money, it could become an annual event.

## WINE & CHEESE TASTING

Most wine tasting events are run in partnership with a wine cellar. They usually offer sample wines, tasting notes and the opportunity for your guests to buy wine at the end of the night. Negotiate a percentage of sales to go to your cause. Charge an admission fee to the evening, drink on arrival and get cheese and snacks donated where possible. A wine tasting bus tour could also be a fund fundraising option.

## There is an idea for everyone!

**Thank you so much for fundraising for Sanfilippo Children's Foundation. If you need any assistance or have any questions regarding your fundraising efforts please feel free to contact us.**