



FUNDRAISING IDEAS FROM A TO Z

2024

www.alsmidatlantic.org
[@alsmidatlantic](https://twitter.com/alsmidatlantic)

A

Ask everyone you meet: Always carry a sponsor/donation form with you so when you talk to people about the ALS United Walk, you can ask them to donate right then.

Make sure the top few donations on the form are significant; other people are apt to follow suit. Conversely, if you start with a \$2 contribution, others may follow with \$2. While you're at it, ask them to join your team!

Auctions: Hold a live or silent auction for various items. BE CREATIVE! For example, a prime parking space at work, a half or whole day off from work, team members to work a day for someone, a picnic lunch prepared by your team members, OR other items such as collectibles or sports memorabilia.

B

Babysitter Service: Give parents a rest and babysit their children for a donation.

Backyard Movie Night: Host a backyard movie night by projecting your movie onto a white sheet or big blank wall. Lay out inflatable furniture and lots of blankets and pillows! Of course, you'll charge for snacks and admission, but they will be reasonably priced – and for a great cause!

Bake Sale: Bake lots of homemade goodies and sell them at work or at a busy place

Birthday Gifts: Ask for donations instead of gifts on your special day! Check out Participant Center for an email template asking friends to make a donation to a great cause!

Block Party: Organize a neighborhood block party. Sell food and drinks and charge admission.

Boss for A Day: This one is fun! Allow people to bid on being boss for the day.

Brown Bag Lunch Week: Encourage employees to bring in their own lunches for a week and donate the money they would have spent to the team.

C

Cake Walk: Get team members to bake cakes. Walkers purchase tickets for the opportunity to participate in the cake walk. Place numbers in a circle and when the music stops, participants run to the nearest number. An emcee calls out a number and the individual closest to that number wins a cake.

Carwashes: People always need a good carwash. This is a great fundraiser for students and adults!

Cell Phone Fines: Who hates a cell phone going off during a meeting or in the office? Fine employees \$5 every time they forget to silence their cell phones.

Challenge by the Boss: Get your boss to agree that if all team members raise their minimum \$100, that they will get a pie in the face, etc.

Coin Drive: (Great for students) Place a large jar in the cafeteria and ask students and staff to contribute their leftover change from lunch.

Concession Stands: Get permission to sell concessions at a local sporting event.

D

Dance Off: Students hold a school dance, or adults organize a dance at a local club. Ask a DJ or band to donate services. Sell refreshments.

Dog Walkers: Walk the neighbors' dogs for a donation or dog sit while pet owners are on vacation.

Donut Days: Get donuts donated from a local bakery and sell at work or school.

Dress-Down Days: Ask co-workers to pay to dress down at work. This can also work with schools that require uniforms (with permission). Ask your boss if fellow employees buy a sticker for \$5-\$25 and get to "dress down" on an assigned day.

E

E-mail: Send E-mails to your friends, family, and co-workers asking them for donations and to join your team! Check out Participant Center, where we've already written the emails for you! You just have to click SEND.

E-mail Signature: Add your fundraising page link to your e-mail signatures both personal and work e-mail (ask the boss first if it is your business account).

Errand Service: For a donation, run errands for those who don't have time to do their own.

F

Fear Factor Challenge: We know the show hasn't been on for years, but who doesn't love a good gross-out? Charge people to vote for the sordid tasks for the competitor. Gross ideas include eating tablespoons of mayonnaise, smelling rotten milk (and not barfing), and holding a tarantula or cockroaches. Ew!

Fish Fry: Hold a fish fry at your church or community center and charge \$5.00 per plate.

Flower Sales: You don't even need a green thumb to do this fundraiser! Work with local florists or wholesalers to sell bouquets, potted flowers, or individual stems at your school or place of work. Try this around Valentine's Day or other special holidays.

Follow up, follow up, follow up!: Your friends and family want to help! They may have just forgotten! Call, email, or send a postcard to the people who haven't donated yet.

G

Game Night: Invite friends to your house to play board games, charades, etc. You can charge your friends an entry fee and maybe they can even "bribe" their way to a win!

Garage Sales: One man's trash is another man's treasure! Join together with your teammates for a rocking Garage Sale and turn your trash into much-needed treasure for ALS care and research!

Golf Tournament: Hold a golf tournament with the proceeds benefiting your Walk team.

Guest Bartender: Friends with your local bartender? Ask them to put up a sign up one night that says all tips get donated to the ALS United Walk. Or talk to a local bar about being a "guest bartender" for a night for a cut of the profits or cover charge

H

Hat (or Cap) Day: Students can make a donation to wear baseball caps or silly hats to school for the day. For adults, ask your Human Resources Department if you can host a fundraiser to support your Walk team. Encourage other staff members to wear hats for the day and make a donation to your fundraiser.

Haunted House: For Halloween, organize a haunted house and charge admission.

I

Ice Cream Socials: Plan one at your place of work or with friends or children. Charge a price of admission, with proceeds going towards your Walk team. This also makes a GREAT team get-together before the event!

Incentives for your donors: Tell everyone that for every \$50 they donate, they get a chance to win something (for instance, your world famous brownies, or a spin in your fancy new car).

J

Jam Making: Try your hand at making some jam at home. Find tutorials online and head to the grocery store! Sell your creation to your friends and family.

Jazz Night: Take in some smooth tunes at your own jazz night event. Charge a cover fee and share information about your ALS United Walk team.

Jewelry Sales: Work with a wholesale company to sell jewelry, with your team receiving a portion of the sales or host a jewelry party at your home with a portion of the sales benefiting your team.

K

Karaoke Night: For adults, head out to your local Karaoke Bar and sing the night away! Invite your family and friends and ask them for donations after each song. Or make it a family night and host a karaoke night at your house! Charge admission with proceeds going towards your Walk team.

Kitchen Tools Sale: Work with a Pampered Chef Consultant (for example, pamperedchef.com) to hold a kitchen show. A portion of the sales will benefit your Walk team. So make sure to spread the word and invite all your friends to support this yummy fundraiser!

L

Letter Writing: Send letters to friends and family explaining what you are doing and why. Tell them your personal goal and ask for help. You could even write a letter from your pet to your friend's pet! Sample letters are available in your Participant Center. If you need more ideas, our Staff is here to help!

Lawn Service: Mow your neighbors or your family's lawns for donations. Make sure to let them know why you are participating in the ALS United Walk and how their donation can make a difference. If you need information about the Walk to share, visit our website or contact the Walk Coordinator.

M

Matching Gifts: This is a great way to double your donations. Ask your company to match what you raise. Many companies already have a Matching Gift program in place. This is FREE money that can double what you donate. Don't forget to ask your donors if their company contributes!

Make 10 copies of this list: Send the copies to friends and family and ask them to choose one thing on the list to help you fundraise.

Monday Night Football Party: Your sports fans and friends will love this one! Provide refreshments and charge admission to the game.

Money Jars: Place jars where you work, on your desk, or on store counters with info about ALS United Mid-Atlantic and the Walk on the front.

N

Needlework Sale: Create some impressive needlework you can sell to support your ALS United Walk team.

Night at the Movies: Invite your friends over for a night at the movies. Charge admission, have popcorn, candy, and drinks to sell too.

O

Odd Jobs: Ask neighbors or family if you can do their odd jobs for a donation.

Office Olympics: Ask management for a Friday afternoon and host stapler competitions, copy paper box races, chair races, cubicle obstacle courses, and many more.

Ornament Sale: Get together with your team and make Christmas ornaments. Sell them for a donation towards your Walk Team.

P

Party With a Purpose: (aka Neighborhood Parties) Throw a neighborhood party and put the money towards your team.

Pizza Sales: Work with a local pizza shop to give you a percentage of the pies that they sell during a specific time. Share the word about your fundraiser and encourage your friends and family to show their support!

Poker Run: With four-wheelers or motorcycles. \$10 entry fee per vehicle. Walkers stop at five different hospitality stops and playing cards are given out. At the end of the trip, the person with the best poker hand is the winner.

Pup Parade: Gather all the pooches in your neighborhood. For a predetermined amount (\$10, \$20, \$30), people bring their dogs and go on an organized "walk" together. Host a cute pet contest or a crazy pet costume contest and offer prizes. Pet stores like PetSmart and Petco may even offer to bring goodies and coupons to your event, so don't forget to ask them!



Quilts: Sell quilt squares in honor and memory of people with ALS; squares of 4X4 for \$5; 8X8 for \$15; 12X12 for \$25. Have team members make the quilts themselves. Also, you can raffle off a handmade quilt that was made by someone on your team or donated to the team.

Quiet Hour: Challenge people to stay quiet for an hour. If anyone makes a noise, charge them a \$5 donation to your Walk Team.

Quiz Night: Test everyone's knowledge with a quiz night to raise money for your fundraiser! Invite members of your Walk Team as a great team-building activity!



Raffles: Just like auctions, raffles can accommodate many items. You can raffle off homemade items or items donated by local businesses.

Raffle a Day Off: Ask your boss or the owner of the company to donate a paid day off to the winner of the drawing. Sell tickets for \$5-\$25 to your co-workers (this is an easy way for most companies to contribute without donating cash).

Restaurant Programs: Many restaurant chains have programs where they'll give a cause 10-25% of the night's profits when customers bring in a flyer. Ask your local manager today and pass out copies of the flyer to everyone you know – and don't know!

Roll Those Pennies: And, while you're at it, break open the piggy bank and start rolling all of those coins that you have been collecting.



Social Media: Use Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, or Twitter to reach out to friends you may not see every day, or whose email addresses you may not have! Share why you are participating in the ALS United Walk and why their donation is important. You'd be surprised at the generosity! Make sure you thank them, and others will be sure to follow suit!

Spin-a-thon: Work with a local gym or spin studio to organize a day of spinning. Participants pay about \$20 per hour to spin with the group. With 20 bikes going for 5 hours, that could be an easy \$2,000 for your Walk team! Provide water for everyone and a raffle for all participants. Plus, be sure to ask the instructors to donate their time to cut down your costs.

Sports Tournaments: Organize sports tournaments at a local school gym or community center and charge an entry fee.

Starbucks Sacrifice: Do your friends spend a ridiculous amount of money on coffee? Ask them to donate what they would have spent on a pricey cup of Joe. \$5 from 10 people is \$50!

Swear Jar: Ever let those teensy four-letter words slip? Oops! Assign money values to the words based on how bad they are and enforce it! Did Dad drop the S-word? A quarter! The F-bomb? A dollar! Considering placing jars at home and work. Make sure you stay on Curse Patrol!

T

Team T-Shirt Donation: Don't just GIVE your team t-shirts out! Sell these coveted items to your team members. Better yet, make them have a certain amount of money on their OWN fundraising record! This is easy to track in the Participant Center Team Roster!

Team Spirit Day: Each employee pays \$5-\$25 to wear their favorite team t-shirt, or sweatshirt.

Table Tennis Tournament: See who edges out the competition at table tennis. Charge your friends and family members \$5-25 to participate in the tournament.

Teddy Bear Picnic: Host a teddy bear picnic for families to enjoy. Pick a nice day and pack a picnic basket for everyone to enjoy! Encourage donations from each person who attends.

U

Ugly Sweater Contest: We bet your friends have ugly holiday sweaters they're just dying to rescue from the attic. Hold an Ugly Sweater Contest! Have people vote using dollars. The sweater with the most votes (dollars) wins and all the proceeds are donated to the ALS United Walk! You could also split the winnings 50/50 with the winner!

V

Vacation Day Drawing: Get your employer to agree to raffle off a vacation day with pay. The raffle money raised will go to your Walk team.

Vendors: Do you work closely with Vendors at your business? Don't forget to ask them for support! You support their business, perhaps they can support your cause!

VIP Parking Spot: Have a fundraising competition amongst your co-workers and the winner gets one week or one month of parking in the coveted spots closest to the front door!

W

Wedding Wishes: Getting married soon? Consider making a donation to ALS United Mid-Atlantic and the Walk instead of giving away favors to your guests.

Wristbands: Sell ALS United Mid-Atlantic wristbands. This is a great way to raise money for your team and spread awareness at the same time. Contact ALS United Mid-Atlantic Staff to inquire about wristbands!

Wall Of Fame: Put up large, colorful "Look Who's Riding on Our Team" posters with baby pictures of those employees who have signed up to Walk, along with current pictures of Walkers. Have everyone donate a dollar and guess whose baby picture is whose.

X

Xtra Cents: (Great for bank and credit union teams.) Donate the extra cents from your deposit to the bank's ALS United Walk team. Place a sign at the teller line and drive-thru window. "The CURE for ALS may be in YOUR POCKET." Indicate that all proceeds benefit ALS United Mid-Atlantic.

X-Factor Competition: Host your own X-Factor style singing contest. Charge your friends \$5-10 to participate. Make sure to appoint judges and include snacks for audience members to buy!

Y

Yard Sales: Clean out those closets and have a yard sale. You can do this individually or with your team. The money raised will go to your Walk team. Make sure to hang posters or flyers around your sale to let people know their purchases support patient care and research.

Yoga for a Cause: Ask a local yoga instructor or studio to donate a portion or all of the proceeds from a class to your team. When you invite friends to join the class, it's a win-win for your fundraising and the yoga studio's expanding client base.

Z

Zumba®-thon: Start your own dance fitness party! You don't even need to hire an instructor; videos are available on YouTube. Your friends and family will not only get a great workout, but they will also have a blast shimmying and shaking to the beat! One team did this as a fundraiser and made over \$2,500 with 100 participants!

Zero Waste Day: Challenge yourself to go fully zero waste for a week. Encourage other friends and family members to join your challenge. For anyone who breaks the streak, encourage them to make a \$20 donation to the ALS United Walk.

