



## IDEAS FOR STUDENT FUNDRAISING

PA students and student societies around the country have successfully raised money during PA week and beyond for charity. They also host events to help defray costs for AAPA's annual conference. PA students from the Student Service Volunteer Group collected the ideas shared here.

### **50/50 Raffle (Arizona School of Health Sciences)**

This is an easy way to raise money. Just buy a roll of raffle tickets. You can do \$2 for 1, \$5 for 5, or \$20 for an arm's length. Ask faculty to purchase tickets too! Fifty percent of what is made can go to the winner and the other 50 percent to your cause.

### **Bake sale (Arizona School of Health Sciences)**

Who doesn't love a good bake sale, especially if you have other programs at your school? This is a great way to raise funds from other students and faculty outside of the PA program. The most helpful tip is just to ask for donations. Most people will give \$5 for one or two things from the table. Also, good packaging (fun treat bags from dollar store) and pretty presentations go a long way to sell goods.

### **Bar fundraiser (Salus University)**

Find a local pub that will allow guest bartenders, aka classmates, to show their skills. Also, they will donate a portion of the sale to your PA student society.

### **Brewery fundraiser (Quinnipiac University)**

Find a brewery that will donate a percentage of checks to a cause!

### **Cater food for lunch hour (Quinnipiac University)**

Although similar to doing a restaurant fundraiser, many places will bring meals into school for purchase. This is a huge hit at our campus since other than at the hospital cafeteria we often don't have much time to get lunch each day. We had Chick-fil-A bring in meals and sell them for \$5 each. We made about \$300 each lunch hour. Emails were sent to all programs the week before so people could plan accordingly.

### **Cow chip bingo (Quinnipiac University)**

The biggest fundraising event that Quinnipiac organizes is a cow chip bingo every spring. You can sell tickets for plots of land that the cows will be on and give prizes to the winner(s). But be sure to do the math to anticipate the number of tickets that you anticipate selling...so that your profit exceeds your expenditures. Also, keep in mind that this is considered gambling, and your program will need to get state or local permits prior to putting on the event.

### **Crowdfunding (University of Bridgeport)**

By using a website such as CrowdRise for crowdfunding you can share on social media and via e-mail with friends and family. Through donations on this website alone, we raised \$4,000 and were able to

meet our fundraising goal! Our program director started a GoFundMe page for us as well and raised \$1,000 for supplies for our medical mission trip!

### **Empty Bowl Dinner (Arcadia University)**

Arcadia University has hosted an Empty Bowl Dinner to support homeless populations in the area and raise awareness of the problem of hunger. Since many of our students in the PA program are interested in public health, students took this opportunity to use their education on the matter and support this cause. At this event, local artists, schools, and individuals donate handmade bowls which students can then buy and then use for an “all you can eat” meal. Each bowl costs \$12 to students and \$15 for the general public. These bowls can then be taken home with each participant to serve as a reminder that somewhere in the world, someone is suffering from hunger. Students at Arcadia also volunteer to aid in set-up and clean-up after the event.

The incredible thing about this event is that 100 percent of the funds are donated to local organizations that address the needs of the homeless and the hungry. Over the past 22 years, through this event alone, Arcadia has raised more than \$100,000.

### **Fun Run/5K (Quinnipiac University)**

5Ks can be a lot of work to put on, but they can bring in a lot of money. You can put one on at a specific location or set up a virtual run. Through a virtual run, participants donate money and complete the run on the same day in different locations. After the race, send a medal to each participant. It ends up being a fun way to get friends and family from all over the country involved.

### **Holiday Goodie Bags (University of Nebraska Medical Center)**

UNMC sells nuts and other goodies to family and throughout campus right before the holidays.

### **Jeans Day (Campbell University)**

Throughout the year the Wallace Student Society hosted multiple “denim days,” which are days approved for students to wear jeans if they pay a small fee. The money raised goes toward a selected charity, which is voted on by class members. The charities involve diverse organizations and are hosted for various causes. The money raised from a recent jean day went to charities to support breast cancer research.

### **March Madness (Salus University)**

Many people fill out basketball brackets for March Madness. We used ESPN's website to send out links to fill out a bracket for a \$5 participation fee. Half the money can be given to the winner; half can go to your student society. This may also require a gambling permit depending on the state.

### **Morning coffee (Quinnipiac University)**

It's really inexpensive to borrow a large coffee pot from your program, cafeteria, or a classmate and then purchase ground coffee. The morning after a rough exam, or maybe even one day a week, brew up some coffee, put it at the front of your class and charge a couple of bucks for each cup.

### **Movember (Quinnipiac University)**

Raise awareness for men's health any month (but probably November)! At the end of your class's Movember, hold a fashion show in which the men can show off their mustaches and best looks, and then the girls get to shave them (optional). During the fashion show, have people in the audience make

donations and a prize goes to the gentleman with the most donations. A great way for the whole class to laugh and have fun, but also fundraise!

### **Ohio PA Olympics (Tri-C/CSU)**

State wide, programs participate in combining their fundraising efforts for a designated cause. During Tri-C/ CSU's first year in Ohio we raised more than \$5,000. The programs did group socials with 50/50 raffles, t-shirt fundraising sales, Go Fund Me online donations, etc.

### **Restaurant fundraiser (Arizona School of Health Sciences)**

Many local restaurants will allow you to pick a day or time frame and everyone that comes in with a flyer that day; part of the profits from that sale will go to your fundraiser. Just pick a fun restaurant that a lot of students or families will go to. It's an easy way to have fun with your program and raise money.

### **Silent auction/raffle (Pacific University)**

Our program has traditionally done the majority of its fundraising through a raffle and silent auction at the Oregon Society for PAs annual meeting. Local businesses and faculty are always generous with donations, and many of our classmates were able to make use of family and friend connections to get donations from larger companies and organizations.

### **T-shirt fundraiser (Quinnipiac University)**

Use an online t-shirt design vendor to design a t-shirt and then sell to raise money.

### **Talent Show (Quinnipiac University)**

Quinnipiac has a free student-run clinic near campus and a lot of our funding comes from our annual talent show. Tickets are \$10 and students, faculty, and community members audition for spots in the show. QU also holds a silent auction during the event to raise additional money. It ends up being a fun, inexpensive night out that has the potential to raise a lot of money for a cause.

### **Ugly sweater/Halloween costume contest (Arizona School of Health Sciences)**

Each student/faculty member pays \$2-5 to participate in the contest (usually faculty are charged more than students). Students ask local businesses to donate gift cards or goods to give away as a prize and the rest of the money goes to outreach events.

### **Yankee Candle (University of Bridgeport)**

Yankee Candle does a wonderful job with their fundraising opportunities. If you sign up with them, they will donate a percentage of any purchase made under your group number to your cause. With this fundraiser alone, Bridgeport was able to raise \$2,000!

### **Zumba! (University of Bridgeport )**

Organize a health and wellness event! Several classmates and people in our community came out in support – students were able to raise about \$1,000! They charged \$20 a ticket for the class.