



FUNDRAISING IDEAS

Below are ideas to help move your fundraising efforts forward. Follow some of these suggestions, and you'll be a fundraising superstar in no time!

PEOPLE GIVE WHEN THEY ARE ASKED!

1. **Whenever you can and however you can, ask people to support you:** Let everyone know you are bowling for choice. When they ask why, the conversation door has been opened. Take this opportunity to tell them why you support Pro-Choice Resources and our programming.
2. **Corporate Matching:** Take advantage of corporate matching gifts programs. Many of your donors may work for companies that have a program like this — their donation could double simply by filling out a form from their Human Resources department and following the steps to submit a matching gift. For further information, please visit PCR's Matching Gift FAQ page at www.prochoiceresources.org/matching_gifts.php.
3. **Spare Change:** Ask your favorite restaurant or local pub to put out a jar for donations of spare change. Decorate it with abortion statistics or pictures of your bowling team. Put them someplace obvious to get people's attention. Or ask your family and friends to put aside their spare change every week. You'll be surprised how quickly it adds up!
4. **In Lieu of Gifts:** In lieu of birthday, housewarming, wedding, or retirement gifts, ask your friends and family to make a donation to the Bowl-a-Thon.
5. **Ask People You Might Not Think to Ask:** Take a chance and ask your doctor(s), dentist, veterinarian, chiropractor, therapist, yoga instructor, insurance agent, lawyer, mechanic, dry cleaner, or hair stylist for a donation.
6. **"Sit" for Donations:** Babysit, pet sit, house sit. Offer services to the neighbors to get them involved.
7. **Dog walking for donations:** Send out a flyer to your neighborhood offering your services to dog walk or dog sit while the owners are out of town.
8. **Garage Sale:** Ask all of your friends and neighbors to participate by donating items for sale. Make signs that indicate all proceeds are going to PCR's Bowl-a-Thon. Add a bake sale and/or lemonade stand, and have a straight donation jar visibly displayed.
9. **House Party:** Host a fundraising party at your home for friends, family, coworkers, and neighbors. Share why you're supporting PCR and bowling for choice. It's a great way to ask people in person to support your fundraising efforts. You could throw variations such as a movie night featuring classic bowling movies like *Kingpin* or *The Big Lebowski*. You could even throw a Wii bowling night in honor of the Bowl-a-Thon.

10. **Benefit Night:** Throw a fundraising party at a local establishment. Charge your guests an entrance fee (donation). But also make sure to ask that local restaurant or bar to support you with a donation of 10% (or more!) of the night's sales — don't be too shy to ask. You can offer to generate a flyer to promote patrons coming to their establishment to help increase their business, and thus your percentage. If you know musicians, ask them to perform a benefit concert. It's a great way to tap into Minneapolis' music scene.

11. **Spaghetti Dinner:** Encourage your place of worship, work, school or other organization to host a spaghetti dinner for reproductive rights. Have all of your friends help with the cooking to make an event where families are welcome and are charged a donation entrance fee to join in the fun. Or organize a potluck party along the same lines where everyone brings a dish to pass and gets to socialize with friends and neighbors. The entrance fee to the party becomes your donation.

12. **Web Based Auction:** Get friends and family to donate things for you to sell on an internet auction site (like eBay). Make sure to let bidders know that the item's selling price is going towards your fundraising for the Bowl-a-Thon.

13. **Personal vending machine at work:** Have you ever wondered how much money the vending machine at work clears in a single week? Find out! Purchase some of the office favorites in bulk (or have them donated), mark them up, and sell them from your desk for \$1 or \$2. If you have a way to keep them cold, do the same with bottled water and sodas.

14. **Signing Your Email or Changing Your voicemail:** Get in the habit of signing your email with your name followed by the link to your personal fundraising page. You can also change your voicemail and answering machine message to let people know you're bowling for choice.

15. **Tap into Minneapolis' Music Scene:** If you know musicians, ask them to perform a benefit concert at a backyard BBQ, block party or local club. Charge admission and use the proceeds towards your fundraising efforts.

Remember to say it loud, and say it proud: I'm prochoice and I bowl!

FUNDRAISING PROTOCOL

Many bowlers host local events and activities to help them reach their fundraising goal. If you plan to fundraise through these methods, please remember the following:

- There are laws governing fundraising activities like raffles, garage sales, leafleting, and other promotional activities. Please check with http://www.mncn.org/info_charitable.htm#soliciting before fundraising in these ways.
- If you plan to post flyers in a public space (grocery stores, malls, parking lots, etc.) please check with the Property Manager first, before posting your materials.
- Be sure to note that your fundraising activity is for Pro-Choice Resources.

For general and financial information about Pro-Choice Resources, visit our website at www.prochoiceresources.org or call 612-825-2000.