

Ronald McDonald House Charities of Denver DIY Fundraising Guide



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**Ronald McDonald
House Charities®**
Denver

Host Your Own Fundraiser

3rd Party or DIY fundraisers help raise funds and spread awareness for RMHC-Denver! We're always grateful for events organized and presented by individuals, corporations, small businesses, clubs, and volunteers for the purpose of raising funds for RMHC-Denver. With your help, we can keep families together and close to the care they need.

Choose Your Event and Get Approval

Once you come up with an idea for the fundraiser you want to host, make sure to contact RMHC-Denver before planning much further.

After talking with RMHC-Denver about your event, complete and return the application!

Fundraising Ideas

When it is your birthday!

- **Post a Facebook Fundraiser** for your birthday! It is easy to set up with just a few clicks. 100% of the money raised through Facebook Fundraising is donated to RMHC-Denver with no cost or fee to the organization.
- **Ask for donations** to RMHC-Denver in lieu of gifts at your birthday party.

In the Workplace or at School

- **Dress Down or Dress Up Day.** Ask employees to donate a designated amount to wear jeans, a t-shirt, sports apparel, dress down, or dress up.
- **Change Wars.** Collect spare change or cash to donate to RMHC-Denver. Make it a competition between departments or classes. Offer the winner a prize.
- **Brown Bag Lunch or Potluck Day.** Ask everyone in the company to bring lunch from home and donate money that would have been spent for lunch. This could also be done potluck style.

During the Holiday Season

- **Tree or wreath competition and auction.** Have a competition decorating small trees or wreaths. Assign judges and display them for a silent auction. Donate proceeds to RMHC-Denver.
- **Host an art/craft/baking fair.** Charge an entrance fee and donate to RMHC-Denver.
- **Put up a Donation Tree** to collect wish list items. A lot like an Angel Tree, but the ornaments have items from our wish list or donation pledges.

- **Raise money at the Holiday Party** for your company/organization/school. Collect donations and donate to RMHC-Denver.
- **Holiday cards.** Write letters to everyone on your Holiday card list, asking them to make a donation to RMHC-Denver.

Anyone Can Fundraise!

- Host a golf **tournament** or other sporting tournament.
- Host a **bake sale or car wash.** Donate the proceeds to RMHC-Denver.
- Host a **cookoff!** Who doesn't love a little competition? The dish that collects the most "donation votes" wins. Then donate funds to RMHC-Denver.
- Have a **progressive dinner** with neighbors or friends! Each location hosts a meal course and collects donations at each stop.
- **Host a party!** Party Ideas: Block Party; BBQ; Tailgate; Birthday Party; Carnival; Cocktail Party; Party for the Kids; Wine Tasting.
- Host a **talent show.** This is a great way to prepare for competition or performances. Perform in front of a crowd and sell tickets to the show. Donate the ticket sales to RMHC-Denver. Make a fun name for it! Examples: Dance for Donations; Cheer for Charity; Concert for a Cause.
- Have a **silent auction.** Collect items or create baskets to auction off, then donate the proceeds to RMHC-Denver.
- **Pledge event.** Walk, run, bike, ski, swim, dance, whatever makes you move! Ask participants to collect pledges to donate to RMHC-Denver.
- **Gift Card and Wish List Drives.** Contact us for our general, Amazon, and Target wish lists.

Make it Virtual!

- So many things can be done virtually! Get-togethers, game nights, wine tasting, silent auctions, etc.
- You can even do a hybrid in-person and virtual event.

Other Ideas

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| • Used Book Sale | • Raffles |
| • Car or Dog Wash | • Gardening or Yard Work |
| • Lemonade or Hot Cocoa Stand | • Motorcycle Ride |
| • Yard Sale | • Bingo/Game/Trivia Night |
| • Pet or Babysitting | • Fitness/Wellness Classes |
| • Sell handmade Jewelry/Crafts/Etc. | • Movie Night |
| • Candy Sales | • Concession Stand |
| • Dog/Pet Fashion Show | • Benefit Concert |
| • Dine Out for a Cause | • Competitions |
| • Wedding Registry | • Be Creative! Send us your ideas! |

How to Collect Funds

- Collecting cash or checks: Make sure you have a secure container to collect and store your money. If collecting checks, have donor write out checks to RMHC-Denver. If you can, keep track of who donated and how much, so we can properly thank them.
- Directly through the RMHC-Denver donation website page. This is an easy way for everyone to get a receipt! Make sure event participants acknowledge the donation is for your event in the comments so we can track how much your event raises. A fun way to do this is by creating a catch phrase or hashtag. Examples: #NHSforRMHC, #FirstBaptistFundraiser, Cindy's Carnival for a Cause, Susan's Birthday Benefit.
- Use the 'Raise Love' donation page through the RMHC Global website. Share, collect, and track the funds you raise. Create a team to make it a little more fun! Request the link.
- Create a fundraiser through the Colorado Gives Website. Easy to share, collect, and track donations. Has the option to create a team! Request the link.
- Facebook: 100% of the money raised through Facebook Fundraising is donated to RMHC-Denver with no cost or fee to the organization. Facebook does not share individual donor information, so we will be unable to provide receipts directly from RMHC-Denver for each donor.
- GoFundMe for Nonprofits. Takes fee from donation.
- PayPal for Nonprofits. Takes fee from donation.

Here are some helpful hints when planning your fundraiser!

- Establish a committee to help plan and execute the event.
- Enlist support from friends, family, and other community organizations.
- If you create a donation page, make sure to share why you are passionate about Ronald McDonald House-Denver!
- Try to find a company, organization, or individual to match the donations you collect.
- Select a fundraiser that best fits your business or group.
- Plan, promote, and publicize!
- If you collect cash or checks, please make sure to get the funds raised to RMHC-Denver within 30 days after the event.
- Don't forget to thank everyone who participated!