Beyond Belief Network Guides: Fundraisers

Fundraisers are an important part of our service. They allow us to have the supplies we need to accomplish our goals or, if fundraising for a partner organization, they strengthen that partnership. Simply put, fundraising increases our impact in our communities. The guide is to give you some ideas and tips so that your fundraiser is the most successful it can be.

Tips to Get Started

1. Check out BBN fundraising idea guides on our resources page!
2. Start planning at least a month in advance so you have time to make arrangements and promote your event.
3. Check local event calendars to be sure your event won’t conflict with some other large event.
4. Approach local businesses that may be willing to donate goods, event space, or other resources. For tips see our approaching local businesses guide.
5. Check with the venue you’ve selected to make sure that what you’re planning won’t violate any of their policies (include the date, where you’re going to be, what exactly you’re going to do, who your group is, what charity you’re supporting).
   a. Many venues have rules about what you can sell because of agreements they’ve made with large businesses.
   b. You might need permission to set up tables, even in public areas.
   c. If you’re a student group, your universities may want to help and can tailor your ideas to what works on your campus, so ask your activities board for help.
6. Post flyers around town or campus, make an event page on Facebook and/or Meetup, send invitations, announce it on your website, put an add on local newsletters and newspapers, and send electronic reminders a day or so before the event. Ask FBB to help you promote your event.
7. Partner up with other groups! Let other local humanist groups know about your event. Consider contacting special interest clubs who would also support the charity you’ve chosen, or partner with religious groups and spark some friendly competition.

8. If you’re selling something, make sure you have a lockbox, appropriate change (bills and coins), and someone in charge of it at all times.
   a. Set up a box for donations for people who don’t want to buy anything but still want to give.

9. If you are raising money for a local partner invite a representative to your event to talk about their work and meet your community.

10. Enjoy yourself!

Don’t forget to submit your event report if your fundraiser is for another organization!

Questions or Concerns?
If you need help with planning your event or have additional questions, the best way to contact Foundation Beyond Belief is to use the contact webform, which enables us to track the resolution of your question.