

“Heart Kids Helping Each Other: Let’s Go To Camp Together” Fundraising Program



“Heart Kids Helping Each Other: Let’s Go To Camp Together” is a program where young individuals and young individuals with heart conditions help support funds for Merry Heart Children’s Camp. Young individuals discover compassion by selecting their own fundraising project and managing it from start to finish. Young individuals develop leadership skills, build self-confidence and learn about teamwork while working toward the final goal of making a difference in the lives of children with heart conditions.

Program Objectives

- ♥ Increase understanding among young individuals about their heart conditions and other children with heart conditions.
- ♥ Inspire young individuals to become actively involved in fulfilling camperships.
- ♥ Nurture the value of community service, using this program as a hands-on learning experience for young individuals.

How to Start a Fundraiser

Stage 1 – Plan and Brainstorm. What fundraiser you are going to plan? You can use our list of event ideas for inspiration (see following pages).

Stage 2 – Choose a date and location. Work with your advisor or parent to decide the best date and location for your fundraiser.

Stage 3 – Schedule your event. Fill out the Merry Heart Children’s Camp “Heart Kids Helping Each Other: Let’s Go To Camp Together” form and email or mail to Merry Heart Children’s Camp. Then, contact Rob McDonald, to discuss your project, ask questions, and find out how Merry Heart Children’s Camp can help.

Stage 4 – Publicize and Promote. Design posters and flyers that you can put up at your school and in the community to get as much support as possible for your event. Request a letter from Merry Heart Children’s Camp to send out to parents and businesses in your community to get support and donations. The more students and people involved, the more fun it can be, and the more successful your fundraiser will be! Work with Rob to discuss any other ways Merry Heart Children’s Camp can support you.

Stage 5 – Celebrate your success! After your event, plan a recognition assembly for the school or group.



Merry Heart Children’s Camp Contact Information:
Rob McDonald, Executive Director, director@merryheartchildrenscamp.org,
(971) 228-9074



Fundraising Suggestions



Competitions/Contests

Money Wars: Teams compete by decorating and filling jars with coins (pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters) and bills with the object of collecting the most money. The team with the highest money total wins!

Counting on You: Participants guess the quantity of jellybeans, paperclips, marbles, coins, etc. and pay to enter the contest. The winner gets a prize. Get a prize from a local business.

Bingo Night: Have people pay a fee to play Bingo for a night. Obtain a prize for the winner.

Frisbee Golf Tournament: Turn this popular outdoor competition into a great fundraiser by collecting entrance fees.

Bowl-A-Thon: Have participants pay a fee to play as a team or individual, or have participants seek pledges for the number of pins they can knock over in a night.

Video Game Tournament: Think you are the best gamer among your friends? Prove it! Charge entry fees and have a concession stand and settle.

Events

Fun Runs: This kind of event can really involve your community! All joggers and walkers and asked to make a small donation to participate, or receive pledges. Make Fun Run T-shirts to sell. Come up with a theme to make it more fun.

Benefit Concert: Raise the roof while you are raising money! Get a popular band or group of bands to sign on to donate a portion (or all) of the ticket proceeds.

Walk-A-Thon: Participants collect pledges for each mile walked.

Host a Movie Night: Rent a current movie and find a place to show it. Invite friends and their parents for a fun-filled night. Sell tickets and popcorn. Try to get a door prize donated from a local business and call a ticket number during intermission for a winner.

Host a Holiday Party: You can plan a Halloween, Christmas, Valentine's Day or St. Patrick's Day party to benefit Merry Heart Children's Camp.

Jail and Bail: Choose a location to serve as your jai. The "arrested" must call family and friends to raise funds to be set free. They must raise a certain amount of money to "post bail".

Helpful Hints:

- ♥ Establish a committee to plan and execute fundraising activities.
- ♥ Enlist support.
- ♥ Establish a budget and set goals.
- ♥ Select a fundraiser that best fits you and our group.
- ♥ Develop a timeline.
- ♥ Set a challenging, yet attainable fundraising goal.
- ♥ Remember the three P's: Plan, Promote and Publicize!

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Sales

Money Jar: Ask your mom or dad to help you find a jar with a lid. If using a plastic container, cut a small hole in the lid, large enough to insert coins. For a specific time period, any pennies, nickels, quarters and dollar bills you find lying around the house, put them into the jar. Be sure to check in-between the seat cushions of the sofa, in the car or at the bottom of your school back pack.

Make some extra jars and ask your grandparents and other family members to collect their change for you. Take an extra step and ask a friend if their family will collect change in one of your money jars. Be sure to check with your friends and family every two weeks to see how their collection efforts are going. Always thank them for their help!

Restaurant Night: Many restaurants will donate a portion of their sales on a certain day for everyone who comes to their restaurant with a flyer for your charity or receipt for their purchase. Contact the restaurant and ask them to allow you to sign up for a night to have your friends and family come and eat. Ask your parents to also invite their friends, co-workers, etc. When you go to the restaurant to eat you will do everything you normally would, but you deposit your receipt in a box by the cash register, and you will receive a portion of the profits for that night. The more people you invite and encourage them to come, the more money you can make.

All you need to do is set up a date with the restaurant. Then go eat! They will send you a check.

Pie in the Face: Easy to organize. Get a group of friends to help you with this or ask your sport team or organization for assistance. Get coffee filters as pie containers and buy whipped cream as the filling. Use white whipped cream not chocolate! Ask people to donate \$5.00 to give a “pie in the face” to a member of your team or organization. Easy as pie!

Gift Wrapping Drive: Buy wrapping paper in bulk or get some donated and wrap gifts for a small fee.

Birthday Gifts: Birthdays are always an exciting time of year for all of us! If you have a birthday coming up, ask your guests instead or in addition to a gift, that they contribute \$5 to Merry Heart Children's Camp. Many times the gift will be much larger than \$5.

Used-Book Fair: Ask for donations of gently used books and sell them.

You can try one of these project suggestions or create a project of your own!

Look on the web to find other creative suggestions or projects!

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Where Does The Money Go?



\$1,000 can help fund:

- ♥ Total cost for two campers.

\$750 can help fund:

- ♥ Total cost for one camper & room and board for another camper.
- ♥ Fifteen two-way radios

\$500 can help fund:

- ♥ One campership
- ♥ Ten two-way radios
- ♥ Medical supplies for camp

\$250 can help fund:

- ♥ Room and board for a camper
- ♥ Arts and crafts for a day
- ♥ Volunteer staff training

\$150 can help fund:

- ♥ Two lifeguards for a day
- ♥ T-shirts for your cabin

\$100 can help fund:

- ♥ One archery session
- ♥ Provide a movie and popcorn for movie night at camp



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