

**Tip # 1 : Start early**



The sooner you start asking for donations, the more money you will raise. As soon as you register to become a fundraiser, get organized and start asking!

**Tip # 2 : Set a challenging but attainable goal.**



Your fundraising goal should be a stretch, but doable. If you are getting close to your goal, then raise it so people continue to donate.

**Tip # 3 : Contact everyone you know.**



Start with your email address book, then your regular book and member lists from clubs you belong to. You'll be surprised who gives!

**Tip # 4 : Customize your emails.**



Make the email template yours! Include a personal story-why you're raising money, why it's important to you, and where the money goes.

**Tip # 5 : Create an email schedule and stick to it.**



Set dates to send a first email announcing your participation, a second email asking for donations, an update email, and 'last chance' email.

**Tip # 6 : Ask, ask and ask again.**



People can only make a donation if you give them the opportunity. Don't be shy about asking more than once. People need to be reminded!



**Tip # 7 : Customize your personal fundraising webpage.**

Include a personal story why you are participating, along with videos and photos. Tug at the heart strings of prospective donors!



**Tip # 8 : Add social media to the mix.**

Use status updates in Facebook, Twitter, or LinkedIn to update friends on your fundraising and provide a direct link to your fundraising webpage.



**Tip # 9 : Get creative.**

Add the URL for your fundraising webpage to your email signature. Give out "piggy banks" and ask people to save their change for a month. Hold an auction. Throw a party!



**Tip # 10 : Join a team**

Need help to stay motivated? Join a team for camaraderie, encouragement, and friendly competition. There's power in numbers!



**Tip # 11 : Stay focused**

Remind yourself of why you are participating in the event, and how the money you will raise will help others. Turn to other fundraisers for inspiration and ideas.



**Tip # 12 : Send a personalized thank you**

After you've completed your fundraising, send your results to donors and thank them again for their help. You might need their support again next year!