

Need inspiration for your fundraiser?

COVID-19 has affected much of our everyday lives, including events. Before planning your fundraising event, see our event ideas below to help you get started!

Anything-a-thon – Let your creativity shine by organizing a dance, sing, video, read, bike, run, walk, bowl, swim, whatever-a-thon.

Bag/Carry groceries – Ask your local grocery store if you can bag people's groceries or help carry them out in exchange for a donation.

Celebrate your favourite Island kid – We know kids may only be 21% of our Island's population, but they are 100% of our future. What better way to celebrate your favourite inspiring young person, than by starting a fundraiser in their honour!

Change drive – This event is as simple as it sounds. Put out a tin/jar and ask people to donate their spare change.

Clothing swap – Invite your friends to bring their clothes or their kid's clothes to your house for a clothing swap and ask them to donate to attend.

Cookbook– This fundraiser takes a fair bit of time, but at the end of it, you have a wonderful collection of delicious recipes. Decide on the type of cookbook you want to create. You could assemble a book of your own recipes or collect recipes from your family and friends. Once you have printed them off, you can sell the books and donate the proceeds.

Donate your time – Volunteer to babysit, housesit, walk a neighbour's dog, do some gardening or any odd job you can think of in exchange for a donation.

Donation in lieu of gifts – Ask guests to donate in place of a gift in for your anniversary, baby shower, bar/bat mitzvah, birthday, engagement, graduation, wedding, or any special occasion.

Facebook Fundraiser – If you are on Facebook, you have probably seen these fundraisers pop-up on your feed. These fundraisers are easy to set up and a great way

to raise some money for Island families. Make sure to tag the Foundation @islandkidsfirst. For more info, [click here!](#)

For the 'Foodies'– Host a BBQ, pancake breakfast or hot dog sale and donate the proceeds.

Game night – Turn your game night into a fundraiser by asking guests for a donation to participate. Make it extra fun by adding some Children's Health Foundation trivia into the mix to inspire your donors.

Give it up the challenge – Do you have a “bad” habit you can't seem to kick? Do you eat out too often? Bite your nails? Check your phone during meals? Ask for your friends, family, and coworkers to support your efforts by donating to the Foundation, setting a penalty amount you donate if you happen to slip up.

Honour someone special – Show someone how much they mean to you by donating in their honour.

Help a friend move – We've all been asked to help someone move in exchange for pizza dinner. Why not ask them to say thank you by making a meaningful donation to help Island families?

In memory of / In tribute to – Further the legacy of a loved one who has passed by suggesting people donate to the Foundation in lieu of flowers.

Jeans day at work – The first step is to ensure that your company is on board with people wearing jeans in the workplace. Then establish an amount that employees need to raise to be able to participate and wear jeans to work on Jeans Day.

Karaoke night – Find a bar/restaurant with a regular Karaoke Night and ask if you can turn it into a fundraiser. You could have team entry fees, prizes for the crowd favourite, etc.

Lemonade stand – An iconic FUN-draiser for kids! In addition to raising money to help other Island kids and creating the next generation of philanthropists, this fundraiser is a great way to introduce children to handling money, marketing and customer service. Use your fundraising page to let your family and friends know when and where to find your lemonade stand, and how long-distance relatives can support from afar by donating.

Level challenges – Set a goal to raise money for the Foundation and establish fundraising milestones to do something if you reach that level. For example, if I raise

\$500, I will shave my beard. If I raise \$1000 I will shave my legs. If I raise \$2500, I will shave my head. If I raise \$5,000, I will shave my eyebrows! Make sure the incentives for people to donate get better the more money you raise.

Mother's Day or Father's Day – Stuck on what to get Mom/Dad/Grandma/Grandpa? Why not add a donation to help Island families to your card?

New Year resolutions – Are you tired of giving up on your resolutions? Why not start a campaign for people to help support your goal? This added accountability might be just the thing you need to succeed.

Paint/Craft night – Do you know how to paint? Arrange flowers? Craft an artisanal candle? Decorate cakes? Why not host a class and share your talents with your friends, family, and coworkers? Sell tickets and advertise that proceeds will be going to support the Foundation.

Polar plunge – A popular fundraiser for thrill-seekers. Make sure you do some investigation into permits and medical support for this chilly event before taking the plunge.

Reading challenges – Motivate your child to get reading by setting a goal to see many books they can read in a week, month or year. Collect donations to ensure your goals stay on track!

TV season finale parties – Take your love for a show and turn it into a fundraiser. Invite people over for a fun night of suspense and ask them to donate at the door.

Virtual events

Stream your hobby – Share your talents with your online community while fundraising for Island families. The possibilities are endless! Ask your network to tune in as you play video games on Twitch, give an online concert, or share an instructional video, in exchange for a donation to Children's Health Foundation of Vancouver Island.

Virtual yoga/Home workout – Lead an online workout by donation.

Virtual penalty jar– Choose a habit you would like yourself, or your team/family to change. Anytime there is an infraction, they must pay the decided penalty amount to the virtual penalty jar. Possible penalties could include being late to a meeting, leaving your phone on at dinner, or forgetting to say thank you. You create the rules and determine how much each penalty costs.

Virtual paint/Craft night – Do you know how to paint? Arrange flowers? Craft an artisanal candle? Decorate cakes? Why not host a virtual class and share your talents with your friends, family, and coworkers? Ask your friends to buy tickets and remind them that proceeds will be going to help ensure that all Island families have access to the healthcare they need.

Virtual game night – Some games translate better than others. Here are some suggestions:

- For kids: Charades, I spy, Simon Says, Bingo, Pictionary, Heads Up!
- For adults: Trivia, Boggle, Scattergories!

Virtual show and tell – This is a great activity for kids who miss their classmates. Reach out to parents to see if they would be interested in joining a video conferencing call, where each child gets three minutes to show their friends something from home. Participation by donation.

Virtual talent show – For kids and adults alike, a talent show is a great way to surprise attendees with a hidden talent. You can turn it into a fundraiser by asking performers to pay an entry fee or sell tickets to the event with proceeds going to the Foundation.

Virtual family reunion– Bring your family together for a virtual family reunion and ask your family members to donate in honour of the event.

Virtual scavenger hunt – Set up a Zoom or Skype call and create a list of common and not-so-common household items for people to find. Give a prize at the end to the person who collects the most items from the list in the shortest time. Participation by donation.

Virtual photo scavenger hunt – Start your event by inviting everyone to come together online to go over the ground rules. When the meeting ends, send participants an email with a list of photos they need to take and establish a time limit. Everyone can reconvene online after the scavenger hunt is complete to share their photos and declare a winner.