



15 Holiday Fundraising Ideas:

- 1) **Party with a purpose:** Throw a holiday party or a wine and cheese party for friends and neighbors. Ask that all attendees donate to Relay as a holiday gift. You can either name a specific donation or leave the amount open in hopes that folks will be extra generous. Make it clear who the donation goes to and why it is important.
- 2) **Gift Wrapping Station:** Ask a holiday shopping hotspot if you can set up a gift wrapping station to benefit The American Cancer Society. Set up a table with a variety of wrapping paper and ribbons. Suggest a donation for your services and make clear on your signage that their contribution/payment will benefit Relay.
- 3) **Raking For Relay:** Autumn's here and leaves are falling! Offer raking services to your neighbors in exchange for a donation. Helpful supplies: extra large yard bags, rakes, yard gloves, and bag stands.
- 4) **Santa Claus Portraits:** Help families beat the long lines at the mall! Have your team set up a Santa Claus portrait center. Find a friend or team member who has a nice digital camera to be the photographer. Set up a small winter wonderland with a Christmas tree, gift wrapped boxes, fake reindeer, etc. Have someone dressed as Santa (and maybe a few other team members dressed as elves) pose with children for pictures. You can e-mail the portraits to the parents to save money on film/printing.
- 5) **Holiday wreaths, garland, and stockings:** If you're especially crafty, you can decorate holiday wreaths, garland, and/or stockings to sell. Ask a local supermarket or garden center if they'll donate space for you to set up a table at the front of the store. (Some stores might only agree if you share a percentage of the proceeds with them.) This would be a great thing to do during the weekends between Thanksgiving and Christmas.
- 6) **Christmas Cookie Bake Sale:** Make a fun variety of Christmas cookies and treats for a holiday bake sale. You can sell an assortment of cookies in a tin. If you want to take your sale to the next level, include holiday crafts like simple handmade Christmas ornaments.
- 7) **In-Home Holiday Shopping:** There are a number of vendors who are happy to do house parties and split part of their profits with Relay. Set up a party where friends can do

holiday shopping in a fun, festive atmosphere! Mary Kay, Avon, Pampered Chef and Tupperware are great potential vendors.

- 8) **Holiday Childcare:** It can be hard for parents to get away to do holiday shopping for the family. In exchange for donations, watch children for a Saturday or Sunday afternoon, allowing parents some time for private holiday shopping. Advertise your services in your church, local libraries, community centers, etc.
- 9) **Winter Cookbook:** Make up a cookbook of your team's favorite holiday treats! Cookies, cakes, candied fruit and nuts, turkey, stuffing, casseroles, cranberry sauce, etc. Sell the cookbook to friends, family, and members of your church. Include Valentine's Day recipes (heart cookies, red velvet cake, etc.) and call it a winter cookbook so that you can keep selling it all season long!
- 10) **Holiday Baskets:** Make holiday baskets to sell to friends and neighbors. Include goodies like candy canes, cookies, nuts, hot cocoa envelopes, holiday candles, and more.
- 11) **Yankee Candle:** Arrange a Yankee Candle fundraiser. 40% of the profits will be donated to Relay. For more information, visit <http://www.yankeecandlefundraising.com/>.
- 12) **Christmas Caroling:** Gather your team for some door-to-door or street Christmas caroling! Dress festively (for example, everyone can wear a Santa hat) and sing holiday favorites to your neighbors. Have a collections tin and signage that indicates that the donations benefit The American Cancer Society.
- 13) **Sell awareness ribbon ornaments:** Make and sell simple awareness ribbon ornaments in a variety of colors representing different cancers. They are easy to make and yet mean so much to so many.
- 14) **Coin Can Santa:** Ask a business if you can set up a table outside their entrance and collect donations in a coin can. Wear a Santa hat and Relay gear to attract more attention. If possible, provide literature about Relay and the American Cancer Society (please, contact your staff partner at least 2 weeks ahead of time to request materials). Keep a bag of candy with you so that you can reward donors with a tasty treat!
- 15) **Winter Concessions:** During outdoor winter events in your community, ask the event coordinators if you can sell hot chocolate and hot apple cider to participants. Set up a table with a water heater/dispenser and keep lots of extra gallons of water handy. Put up signage that indicates that all proceeds go to the American Cancer Society through Relay For Life. It is never a bad idea to make literature available as well.