

Ask everyone you meet: Always carry a donation letter with you so when you talk to people about the Ellen Reavis Walk for Autism. Don't prejudge whether people will give—just ask! While you're at it, ask them to join your team!

Auctions: Hold a live or silent auction for various items. BE CREATIVE! For example, a prime parking space at work, a half or whole day off from work, team members to work a day for someone, a picnic lunch prepared by your team members, OR other items such as collectibles or sports memorabilia.

Bake Sale: Bake lots of homemade goodies and sell them at work or at a busy place (Walmart, Church, etc.).

Birthday Gifts: Ask for donations instead of gifts on your special day!

Block Party: Organize a neighborhood block party. Sell food and drinks and charge admission.

Brown Bag Lunch Week: Encourage employees to bring in their own lunches for a week and donate the money they would have spent to the team.

Cake Walk: Get team members to bake cakes. Walkers purchase tickets for the opportunity to participate in the cake walk. Place numbers in a circle and when the music stops, participants run to the nearest number. An emcee calls out a number and the individual closest to that number wins a cake.

Carwashes: People always need a good carwash. This is a great fundraiser for students and adults, alike.

Cell Phone Fines: Who hates a cell phone going off during a meeting or in the office? Fine employees \$5 every time they forget to silence their cell phones.

Challenge by the Boss: Get your boss to agree that if all team members raise their minimum \$100, that she will kiss a pig, get a pie in the face, etc.

Coin Drive: (Great for students) Place a large jar in the cafeteria and ask students and staff to contribute their left over change from lunch.

Donut Days: Get donuts donated from a local bakery and sell at work or school.

Dress-Down Days: Have employees pay to dress down at work. This can also work with schools that require uniforms (with permission).

E-mail: Send E-mails to your friends, family and co-workers asking them for donations and to join your team!

E-mail Signature: Add your fundraising page link to your e-mail signatures both personal and work e-mail (ask the boss first if it is your business account).

Follow up on your asks: Your friends and family want to help! They may have just forgotten! Call, email, or send a postcard to the people who haven't donated yet.

Game Night: Invite friends to your house to play board games, charades, etc. You can charge your friends an entry fee and maybe they can even "bribe" their way to a win!

Garage Sales: One man's trash is another man's treasure! Join together with your teammates for a rocking Garage Sale.

Ice Cream Socials: Plan one at your place of work or with friends or children. Ask for a donation to attend. Sell ice cream and tell them that the proceeds are going to your Walk team. This also makes a GREAT team get together!

Jewelry Sales: Work with a wholesale company to sell jewelry, with your team receiving a portion of the sales or host a jewelry party at your home with a portion of the sales benefiting your team.

Kitchen Tools Sale: Work with a Pampered Chef Consultant (www.pamperedchef.com) to hold a kitchen show. A portion of the sales will benefit your team.

Letter Writing: Send letters to friends and family explaining what you are doing and why. Tell them your personal goal and ask for help.

Make 10 copies of this list: Send the copies to friends and family and ask them to choose one thing on the list to help you fundraise.

Matching Gifts: This is a great way to double your donations. Ask your company to match what you raise. Many companies already have a Matching Gift program in place. This is FREE money that can double what you donate. Don't forget to ask your donors if their company contributes!

Money Jars: Place jars where you work, on your desk, or on store counters with info about The New Mexico Autism Society on the front!

Office Olympics: Ask management for a Friday afternoon and host stapler competitions, copypaper box races, chair races, cubicle obstacle course, and many more.

Party With a Purpose: (aka Neighborhood Parties) Throw a neighborhood party and put the money towards your team.

Payroll Deduction: Employees can make their own contributions by having them deducted directly from their paychecks. A little each week can grow into a large amount! Contact NMAS to find out about any paperwork that may need to be filled out!

Pizza Sales: Work with a local pizza parlor to give you a percentage of the pies that you sell.

Pizza Party: Plan one at your place of work or with friends or children. Ask for a donation to attend. Sell pizza and tell them that the proceeds are going to your Walk team.

Quiz for A Cause: Host a friendly quiz night and charge per entrant!

Restaurant programs: Many restaurant chains have programs where they'll give a cause 10-25% of the night's profits when customers bring in a flyer. Ask your local manager today and pass out copies of the flyer to everyone you know – and don't know!

Social Networking: Use Facebook and Twitter to reach out to friends you may not see every day, or whose email addresses you may not have! You'd be surprised at the generosity! Make sure you thank them, and others will be sure to follow suit!

Starbucks Sacrifice: Do your friends spend a ridiculous amount of money on coffee? Ask them to donate what they would have spent on a pricey cup of Joe. \$5 from 10 people is \$50!

Team Spirit Day: Each employee pays \$5-\$25 to wear their favorite team t-shirt, sweatshirt

Ugly Sweater Contest: We bet your friends have ugly sweaters they're just dying to rescue from the attic. Hold an Ugly Sweater Contest! Have people vote using dollars. The sweater with the most votes (dollars) wins and all the proceeds are donated to the Ellen Reavis Walk for Autism! You could also split the winnings 50/50 with the winner!

Vacation Day Drawing: Get your employer to agree to raffle off a vacation day with pay. The raffle money raised will go to your Walk team.

Vendors: Do you work closely with Vendors at your business? Don't forget to ask them for support! You support their business, perhaps they can support your cause!

VIP Parking Spot: Have a fundraising competition amongst your co-workers and the winner gets one week or one month of parking in the coveted spots closest to the front door!

Wall Of Fame: Put up large, colorful "Look Who's Walking on Our Team" posters with baby pictures of those employees who have signed up to walk, along with current Polaroid pictures of walkers. Have everyone donate a dollar and guess whose baby picture is whose. The winner could also receive a small prize (lunch on the company etc.)

Xtra Cents: Drop your extra change in jars to compete against other departments, classes, bank branches. See who can raise the most money.

Yard Sales: Clean out those closets and have a yard sale. You can do this individually or with your team. The money raised will go to your Walk team.

Zumba[®]-thon: Start your own Latin-dance fitness party! You don't even need to hire an instructor; the game is available for Wii. Your friends and family will not only get a great workout, they will have a blast shimmying and shaking to Latin and International beats! If you go to a gym or fitness facility, you can take it a step further, ask them if they can be the host!