



Summer **FUN**draising Ideas

BBQ Dinner or Cook-Off



This summer fundraiser idea requires that people come hungry. Rent or have equipment donated and host a BBQ dinner. Sell tickets for meals, and spice up the event by having participants pay a fee to compete for the best local BBQ sauce in town.

Pro Tip: Drum up excitement for the event by sending out social media updates to remind attendees when to arrive and additional details.



Car Wash

A good old-fashioned car wash is a classic summer fundraising idea. Advertise your event ahead of time on social media to let the local community know what hours your event will run. Request a suggested donation and offer different levels of service, such as wax or a towel-dry.

Pool Party



Whether you partner with a local YMCA, hotel, or cause champion, a casual pool party can be a great summer fundraising idea that gathers your supporters. Charge for entry and plan a fun event for your guests. For example, you might arrange a pool volleyball or basketball tournament and partner with your venue or a local business to offer a prize to the winning team. Prizes can be anything from a free day pass to the pool, a hotel night stay, or even offering to host a birthday party at the same venue.

Other potential pool games include:

- **Underwater Scavenger Hunt:** Drop weighted, non-glass items at the bottom of the pool and have participants dive for treasure
- **Floatie Race:** Have each attendee choose a pool raft and then paddle from one side of the pool to the other
- **Synchronized Swim Competition:** Encourage teams to get creative and choreograph an underwater routine. Then each team participates in a dance-off in the water.



Fourth of July Party

What better reason to throw a party than to celebrate our nation's independence? For this summer fundraising idea, host a BBQ in your backyard or a local park and ask your supporters to bring a friend. Charge an entry fee for food and drink and accept donations at the door for anyone who joins in. If you're hosting in a public space, then make sure to obtain proper permits and task a crew for cleaning up your site.



Sand Volleyball Tournament

There are few better ways to enjoy the sun and sand than volleyball. Set up a tournament and charge an entry fee. You could also ask teams to fundraise to enter. Offer tiered incentives and prizes to motivate participants to meet their fundraising goal and require participants to raise a minimum of \$75 to enter.



Summer Field Day

Parents will be thrilled for the chance to tire their kids out at a good old-fashioned field day this summer. Ask for a minimum donation and be sure to host classic events like a wheelbarrow race, sack race, three-legged race, egg-and-spoon race, water balloon toss, and games of capture the flag, and tug-of-war.

And who's to say you can't host a field day for adults? Use team-based registration to create a throwback-themed event. Bonus points for teams that go all in on the nostalgia and show up wearing gym clothes from the '70s or '80s.



Disc Golf

Also known as Frisbee golf or Frolf, this increasingly popular sport has new courses opening all over the country. Bring this summer fundraising idea to your own town, use a registration with fundraising event model, and offer prizes for top performers to boost attendance.



Neighborhood Fun Run

While you can organize a 5K any time of year, the summer weather is bound to boost race attendance. Be sure to start earlier in the morning to avoid the heat and have volunteers hand out water, ice, and popsicles to keep everyone cool.



Eating Contest

Look no further for event inspiration than Nathan's Hot Dog Eating Contest, where past top male and female participants ate 72 and 41 hot dogs, respectively. Get creative with the food of choice and ask entrees to create personal fundraising pages. Strawberry pie, hot dogs, popsicles...the possibilities are endless.



Cornhole Competition

Cornhole is a great summer activity to design an event around because it's affordable to host and easy to scale. Depending on your budget, you can purchase, build, or ask your neighbors to loan you Cornhole sets (made up of two boards and two sets of bags).

Check out [Cornhole Worldwide](#) for everything you need to create your own Cornhole competition, including a customizable bracket. The competition will be elimination style so that it moves along quickly and those left standing at the end have a crowd of spectators to cheer them on. Don't forget to provide food and drinks and offer a series of prizes for participants who make it to each bracket.



Film Showing

This summer fundraising idea puts a fun spin on movie nights. Host a screening in your backyard or local park. Sell tickets, popcorn, and candy to attendees and ask for a suggested donation at the gate. Possible summer blockbusters include: *National Lampoon's Vacation*, *Jurassic Park*, and Marvel's *The Avengers*.

Sandcastle Contest



This summer fundraiser reminds everyone that sandcastles aren't just for kids. Sand sculpture competitions are another great way to host a beach event at your local lake. Ask contestants to pay and register for the event ahead of time, and give them a set amount of time to complete their entry during the actual contest. If possible, work with city officials to block off parts of the beach. Serve drinks and snacks and let attendees vote for the winner.



Summer Adventure Scavenger Hunt

Summer is the time for adventure, and what's more adventurous than a scavenger hunt? This summer fundraising idea might take a bit more planning on your part, but with the right preparation, you can deliver an experience your supporters will never forget. Work with local businesses to set up an "Amazing Race"-style quest and leave clues and challenges around your neighborhood for contestants to hunt down and complete. Ask registrants to sign up in teams and raise a minimum amount to enter.

For your JDRF summer fundraiser, we are happy to provide:

- A plastic JDRF banner (can be mailed)
- JDRF One Walk tattoos (can be mailed)
- JDRF One Walk t-shirts – leftover from 2019 Walk (due to postage costs, these **CANNOT** be mailed and will need to be picked up at the JDRF office in Bloomington)

Please contact Kara at kfischer@jdrf.org or 952-851-0770 to coordinate supplies.