

Fundraising Tips

Think ahead and start early. The earlier you start, the more money you can raise or items you can collect! Start planning your Term 3 fundraiser in Term 1 so everyone is ready to go when they return from school holidays.

Build a good team. An effective team consists of students and teachers that bring different skills to the table. For example:

- **People Person** - find someone who is great at sending out short, friendly reminders to the school community throughout the fundraiser and rallying support.
- **Bean Counter** - find someone who is good at counting and keeping track of how the money is coming in.
- **Task Master** - it's important to have someone who can keep track of project deadlines and fundraising milestones.

Coach them on talking points and conversation starters to help them introduce your cause to potential supporters and donors. The 'Youth Homelessness – A Snapshot' fact sheet is great for this!

Set clear goals. What are you raising money/collecting for and how much do you need? Clear goals will keep everyone motivated, focused and on track.

Pace yourself. Don't try to do everything at once. Make up a clear and realistic timeline for the fundraiser and a reasonable task list for the team and any volunteers.

Keep everyone informed. Clear communication keeps things moving and helps everyone avoid surprises. Give your school community, including teachers and parents, advance notice so they are expecting the fundraiser and remind everyone in the lead up to deadlines.

Relate the fundraiser to your school values. Part of the reason your school chose to partner with Brisbane Youth Service is because of a shared vision and purpose, and our commitment to promoting a just society for all young people. Share it with your community! Encourage conversations and spread awareness about the issue of youth homelessness. This is a valuable moment to demonstrate how they can help your school to make a difference and have a meaningful and positive impact in the local community.

Expand your reach. You can go beyond your own school community to gather support for your fundraiser. Talk to your parents and extended family, your local sports teams, local businesses etc.

Don't forget to say "thank you." Let your volunteers know you appreciate them and thank your supporters and donors too. Thank you notes or newsletter/assembly announcements can go a long way toward boosting spirit and encouraging people to participate again next time.

Don't be afraid to ask for help or advice. If you have questions or need guidance, please don't hesitate to reach out to our Fundraising Coordinator, Laura Watson on (07) 3620 2428 or at lwatson@brisyouth.org.

Fundraising Ideas

You can use the [Events Calendar](#) as a guide in terms of opportunities throughout the year around which you could plan an awareness or fundraising event, project or activity.

For example:

- World Oral Health Day – run a collection drive asking for donations of basic, essential toiletry items such as: toothbrushes; toothpaste; roll-on deodorant; shampoo, conditioner, shower/body wash, small packets of tissues, wet wipes etc.
- Daggy Jumper Day – gold coin donation free ‘daggy jumper’ dress day, ‘daggy’ fashion parade fundraiser, ‘dag n snag’ sausage sizzle fundraiser
- Bridge to Brisbane – register a school/year/class team and ask people to sponsor you
- Christmas Hamper Drive – run a food drive asking for donations of items listed on the BYS website

Here are some other ideas ...

- Winter Warmer drive asking for donations of blankets, scarves, beanies and socks
- Sleep out type event where staff and students get sponsored to ‘sleep rough’ for a night, perhaps in your assembly hall. Parents could be invited along the next morning to share in a breakfast and hear about the issue of youth homelessness from the students
- Student led fundraising project e.g. bake sale, trivia night, talent show, raffle
- Gold coin donation free dress day

