



Big Brothers Big Sisters
of Toronto

Event Ideas

The purpose of this list is to provide your group with guidelines and suggestions only - Be Creative! The event is what you make it!

Matching Gift: Before you organize any event approach your employer to see if they have a matching gift program. A matching gift, is a charitable gift made toward a non-profit organization by a matching donor (e.g., an employer) under the provision that an original donor (e.g., an employee) first makes a gift toward that organization. Many employers sponsor matching gift programs and will match any charitable contributions made by their employees. This is a great way to double your fundraising efforts!

Holiday Party: Is your office hosting a Holiday Party this year? Consider making BBBST your charitable partner and asking employees to make a donation in lieu of a Secret Santa. Or consider making one larger donation on behalf of your organization instead of individual gifts this year. Often companies will consider matching a portion of the donations made so set a Fundraising Goal of \$1000 or more and start a holiday drive. Celebrate your success at your Holiday Party.

A-thons: Almost any activity can be made into an "A-Thon". Get participants to raise pledges and sign up for any number of a-thon appropriate activities. I.E. Walk, skip, read, bike, dance, knit, swim, bowl, skate, aerobics.

Raffles: Set up prizes or incentives and hold a raffle for a chance to win things like, a day off, company swag or products, free lunch, or any other items. Or, hold a 50/50 draw that can definitely give you the extra push you need to reach your fundraising objective.

Auctions: Host a silent or live auction at your next event, meeting or in your office and have people bid on items in support of BBBST.Eg. Donated goods, vacations, art, furniture, handmade goods, quilts, services, catered meals

Other Galas/Parties: Essentially a ticketed event where proceeds are directed to BBBST.Eg. Black tie dinner, concert, garden tour, art show, performance of a play, BBQ beach party, boat cruise, theme party, dress rehearsal performance, food fair, gala premiere, dance, celebrity luncheon, talent show.

Sporting Events and Tournaments: Host a sports game or tournament with an entrance fee, or have participants raise money to participate. Split the pot or donate it all to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Toronto! Eg. Baseball game, football game, golf tournament, tennis tournament, fishing derby, poker tournament, ping pong/pool/-billiards/darts tournament, soccer tournament.

Other Ideas:

Garage Sale

BBQ

Bake Sale

Head Shaving

Loonie/Twoonie Drive

Car Wash/Pet Wash

Arts and Crafts sale/show

“Dress Down” Day

Automatic paycheck contributions