Fifty Fundraising Ideas
1. **Pink Lemonade Stand.** Set up a “Pink Lemonade Stand” in your neighborhood, school, after a worship service, etc. This is a kid-friendly option that can involve the whole community, helping to get YSC’s name and message out there.

2. **Pink Cocktail Party.** Throw a “Pink Cocktail Party” (21+) at your local bar or home to help educate young women about breast health while doing your fundraising. The bar could donate a portion of the proceeds, have a raffle, and serve a pink-themed drink for the evening. You could even throw a “Pink Cocktail Party” in your home and serve pink drinks: cosmopolitans, gin and pink grapefruit juice, and strawberry daiquiris are just a few ideas.

3. **Product Parties.** Host a product party such as Mary Kay, Avon, Tupperware, Jamberries, Pampered Chef, etc. and ask that a portion of the proceeds go toward your fundraiser.

4. **Yard Sale.** Ask your neighbors for items to sell, and publicize your sale in your child’s school, your office, etc. Set up a donation center or offer to pick up items yourself. Sign up at freecycle.org and see if anyone in your area would be willing to donate. You can set up a bake sale and pink lemonade stand at the same time to increase donations.

5. **Trash the Dress Party.** Bridesmaids dresses? Wedding dresses? Prom dresses? Put that old dress to good use for a good cause; get your friends to join you! Host an event where guest can “trash the dress” for a fee! Have paint, chalk and other colorful materials donated to “trash the dress” and have a local photographer volunteer their time to take pictures!

6. **Fundraise in Your Office.** Put up a poster and a donation form at your office or cubicle. Do virtual shout-outs on office bulletin boards or on intranet chat walls when colleagues donate to your campaign. Keep a fundraising thermometer going so your coworkers can see your progress.

7. **Talent.** Sell any talent or skill you may have: graphic design, computer skills, photography, makeovers, sewing, typing, baking, cake decorating, etc.

8. **Raffle.** Ask companies, friends and others to donate items to raffle off in your community. To enhance your success, have the raffle drawing at a major event or in a public place. Or, try working with a local salon, bakery or other business to coordinate an in-house raffle. Ask them if they could donate some products and sell raffle tickets at the register. This is a great way to increase your visibility!

9. **Craft Nights.** Host a weekly craft night for your friends: quilting, scrapbooking, knitting or whatever interests you. The events will promote YSC awareness, and you can raffle off or sell your crafts. People love handmade goods for a good cause. Organize a craft fair in your community, with a portion of the proceeds benefitting YSC.

10. **Car Wash.** Car washes are an easy way to promote visibility! Contact a local school about using their parking lot on a weekend for the event. You could also get the school community involved in both washing the cars and getting their cars washed. Get some lemonade donated to sell at the car wash so that people have a cold drink while they wait for their car to be washed!

11. **Strike Gold.** Ask family and friends to donate old jewelry they no longer wear and turn the gold in for cash.
12. **Penny Wars.** This is a great fundraiser at schools! Give each team (or class) a large water jug. They will have 10 minutes each morning to fill their jars with as many pennies as possible. They can also put silver coins (dimes, nickels, quarters) into other jars to detract from the penny total. The team with the most money (after their silver has been subtracted) at the end of a week wins!

13. **Cookbooks.** Ask people in your local community to submit their favorite recipes to be published in a book. Sell the cookbook to benefit YSC.

14. **Wear Jeans to Work Day.** Have coworkers pay a minimum of $5 to wear their jeans to work. People often give more when they know more about the cause – be sure to share YSC’s website and your own personal story!

15. **Pink Carnation Fundraiser.** Sell pink carnations at your office or school for $2 each. Arrange to have them sent to people on a certain day with personalized messages.

16. **Pink Bake Sale.** Organize a bake sale in your office, place of worship, child’s school, or other public place. Sell pink-themed goods: cupcakes with pink frosting, strawberry shortcakes, pink-colored white chocolate, sugar cookies with pink sprinkles, etc. You can even ask local bakeries to donate!

17. **Karaoke.** Organize a karaoke night at a bar or social club. Suggest that people pay $2 per song, but have a donation jar available in case they want to give extra money!

18. **Gala Night.** Host an elegant or formal party the evening of an awards show (Academy Awards, Golden Globes, VMA’s, The Tony Awards, etc.)

19. **Silent Auction.** Ask some of your local businesses to donate items (i.e. $10 worth of dry cleaning, a book of car washes, a free meal, a week of free coffee, etc.) Set minimum pledge limits. Hold the auction over a week and notify the winners. This is a great idea to do in the office!

20. **Fundraising Dinner.** Ask a local restaurant to host a fundraising dinner for you, with a portion of all food and drink proceeds benefitting your ride. Solicit a local DJ to play at the restaurant the night of the fundraising dinner and promote the live music to increase your attendance!

21. **Become a Bartender.** Ask your favorite bar if you can bartend for a night and keep all of your tips. Make sure you tell all your friends to stop by the bar that night. Ask the DJ to make announcements throughout the night sharing what you are doing.

22. **Dog Wash.** Forget the cars; wash our four-legged friends! Hold a dog washing party in your neighborhood, at your place of worship, or at a local pet-friendly business. Ask local businesses to donate the pet wash supplies you will need and ask your friends to help wash. Add a pet treat bake sale and sell lemonade or soft drinks (that have been donated).

23. **Pancake Breakfast.** Host a pancake breakfast. These work especially well when they follow another gathering, such as a religious service. Charge admission and have a donation jar available at the end of the buffet line and at the door. Think pink – serve pancakes with strawberries, pink lemonade, and even have a small batch of pink pancakes. These events have been known to raise thousands of dollars!

24. **Get Crafty.** Make special holiday ornaments and sell them for donations.
25. **Super Change Jar.** Ask all of your friends and family to put aside their spare change to be added to the Super Change Jar. Every month or so, empty it and let everyone know how much “a little at a time” adds up! This is a great idea to put into action at work, too. Decorate the jar with inspirational quotes.

26. **Hair Salon.** Ask your hair salon if they would donate $2 from each hair cut over a weekend to benefit your fundraiser. Better yet, see if they are willing to hold a cut-a-thon and donate all of the proceeds from cuts at a certain time to you!

27. **Have a Wine & Cheese Tasting Party.** An interesting spin on this party: have your guests bring a cheap bottle of wine in a paper bag, along with their donation. Everyone samples the wine and votes on their favorite. At the end of the night, the winning wine is revealed.

28. **Personal Vending Machine.** Take a trip to Costco and load up on snack items. Then ask your coworkers to come to you instead of the vending machine. Even better, does your company have a high stress period such as quarterly reports, tax season or big client deadlines? Provide that mid-afternoon snack break!

29. **Spaghetti Dinner.** Encourage your place of worship, work, school or other organization to host a spaghetti dinner. Have all of your friends help with the cooking to create a fun, family-friendly event, and charge an entrance fee.

30. **TV Show Party.** Host a party for the premiere or finale of your favorite TV show. Ask friends over to watch and charge them at the door, or sell snacks.

31. **Movie/TV Marathon.** Host a movie or TV series marathon. Choose a theme (*Hitchcock, I Love Lucy, Gilligan's Island, Seinfeld, Friends, etc.*) and fire up the popcorn! Charge an entrance fee at the door. Enhance the theme with a suggested $1 donation every time a specific word or phrase is spoken. Examples: every time Hitchcock himself appears; every time Jerry has an “aside” with Elaine.

32. **50/50 Raffle.** Sell tickets to a 50/50 raffle at a large event or gathering. The prize is half the “pot.” The winner splits the proceeds with you – you each get 50%.

33. **LinkedIn.** The connections that you have on LinkedIn are very different from those on social media. Post on LinkedIn about your fundraising efforts and don’t forget to ask about matching gifts!

34. **Pizza Nights.** Ask your local pizza place to donate pizza and ask friends for a $7 donation at the door for “all you can eat.”

35. **YOYO Party** (or other children’s games). Get your kids or friends’ children to earn donations for doing cartwheels, skipping around a track, swimming laps in the pool, etc.

36. **Bowling.** Ask your local bowling alley to donate some lanes for a fundraising party. Invite your office mates (it’s a great team builder), neighbors, family or a group of old friends.

37. **Chili Cook-off.** Create a neighborhood block party where everyone gathers with their best pot of chili. People pay $2 per “taste,” which is a quarter of a bowl. They can then vote for the chili they think is best. Have a prize donated for the winner!
38. **Mommy’s Morning Out.** Offer group babysitting services for your friends where they pay a flat rate per child to have a group play date that you supervise, so they have a free morning to run errands. Don’t forget to have activities planned for the children!

39. **Scrapbooking Party.** Host a scrapbooking part at your house or a local hobby store. Ask a pro to lead an inspirational idea exchange and have some great samples on display, some special supplies and/or discounts for attendees. Serve donated food and drinks, and charge at the door.

40. **Java Hour.** Host a coffee get-together at your home or at a local coffee shop. Ask your favorite coffee shop to donate the coffee (and maybe even some goodies!) Invite your neighbors and friends. Suggest a donation. Get creative and have them sign ribbons to attach to your jersey.

41. **For the Birds.** Deliver a group of fake pink flamingos to a friend’s yard and leave a note explaining the cause and asking for a donation to “re-plant” the flamingos in the yard of the next “victim” the first donor designates.

42. **Fore!** Hold a tournament at a golf course that will offer reduced green fees and get prizes donated. Getting local celebrities to participate will draw more people.

43. **Plant Trees.** Ask a nursery for seedling donations and then get people to sponsor the planting of a tree.

44. **Pump It Up.** Coordinate with a local gas station to have volunteers serve as gas station attendants who pump gas and clean windshields for donations for a day.

45. **Scavenger Hunt.** Set a route and make a list of items the participants need to find in order to win. Charge a fee to participate and have a prize donated for the winner.

46. **Ask your boss for a company donation.** Even better, ask your company to match all of the donations you gather!

47. **Pub Crawl.** Get a string of local bars to offer drink specials, a signature drink, free appetizers (remember to do this on a night when the bar/restaurant will appreciate the extra business) and prizes.

48. **Send out at least 30 emails or letters asking for $25.** Check out some sample letter templates on your personal fundraising page. Make sure that you use our “Ask Everyone! Checklist” to include as many people as possible in your efforts.

49. **Delegate.** Give 10 friends 10 donation forms and ask them to get donations for you or send emails to 10 of their own friends.

50. **Remind every donor to ask whether their employer offers a company match.**

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**Remember:** Have extra donation forms available at every event you host! People may want to take them for friends!