

IDEAS & HOW TO ORGANIZE A FUNDRAISING EVENT

BLUE DOOR

BlueDoor.ca | 905-898-1015 | info@bluedoor.ca





About Blue Door

Founded in 1982, Blue Door's vision is a Canada where everyone can access dignified housing. As the largest emergency housing provider in York Region, Blue Door's mission is to enable housing stability by driving innovative housing, health, and employment solutions that prevent and end homelessness. Furthermore, Blue Door's ongoing work to support our community's most vulnerable is grounded by seven values: respect, anti-racism, justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion, a person-centered approach, leadership and collaboration, innovation, housing as a right and accountability.

To address the root causes of homelessness, Blue Door has developed a 3-year strategic plan (2023-2025) made up of the following seven priorities:

Housing; Health; Employment; Evaluate; Lead; Innovate; Advocate



HOW TO GET STARTED

Before the Event

Notify us that your organization is planning a fundraiser for Blue Door by contacting Barb Latour:

Barb Latour, Office Manager
905-898-1015 ext. 232 | barb.latour@bluedoor.ca

We will do our best to support your event through social media, providing information about Blue Door, and sharing our logo with your organization!

During the Event

If you contacted Blue Door prior to the event, we will also try to support your event by attending and speaking, sharing on socials to drive participation, or support in any capacity we are able.

After the Event

Let us know how your event went! We are happy to arrange for one of our staff to come to your location to accept your generous donation and thank everyone in person.

Alternatively, you can:

- Mail cheques made out to “Blue Door Support Services” to our mailing address at:
18838 Highway 11, East Gwillimbury, ON, L9N 0C5
- Donate online at bluedoor.ca
- Drop off donations at our office in person



With help from people like you, last year Blue Door provided life-saving support, including:

- 34,000+ nights of safety
- 112,000+ delicious meals



If you would like to drop off your cheque or cash donation in person, please contact us to arrange a time and location at 905-898-1015 ext. 5.

FUNDRAISING IDEAS

Garage Sale

Garage sales are fun and easy with something for everyone! Bring together your neighbours, friends, colleagues or family to sell items you no longer use.

In-Person Option

People can contact you beforehand and inform you of what items they wish to contribute. On the day of, the donated items are displayed and sold, with all the proceeds going to Blue Door.

Virtual Option

Using a platform or program, such as VarageSale, your group can easily create an account, post the donated items, and arrange for them to be picked up.



Talent Show

A fun interactive way to showcase your talents!

In-Person Option

Costs and effort for setting up this event can vary depending on your facilities, though most schools and churches already have a stage and sound system in place. Organize the performers, get the word out, charge admission and/or sell items like snacks and beverages throughout the event to raise funds!

Virtual Option

Have interested performers send in video submissions of their performance. Using platforms such as YouTube Live or Zoom, everyone can still gather, and watch people share their talents! Set a minimum donation price to attend.



FUNDRAISING IDEAS

Trivia Night

Trivia; there's nothing quite like it. Fun, friendly competition, and learning, all for a good cause!

Onsite Option

This is a great way to learn more about Blue Door and homelessness, all while having fun as a community! To raise money, you can charge admission or charge to play.

Virtual Option

Similar to the virtual talent show, use YouTube Live or Zoom to hold and host the trivia night. People can pay a minimum donation/fee to play and receive the meeting link and information.



Video Game Tournament

Here is a fun one for all the kids or kids at heart! Some fun and friendly competition, all for a good cause!

Onsite Option

Set up the game and necessary equipment, have people register and enter the tournament by donating a minimum amount, and watch the fun unfold!

Virtual Option

Create an event registration page, where participants can register themselves and make their donations. Arrange a time and date for the tournament to take place and, using platforms such as Twitch, all that is left to do is start your engines!



FUNDRAISING IDEAS

Bake Sale

Bake your favourite treats and charge a flat rate for each baked good someone buys, or make it interesting by having participants compete to bake the tastiest treat and have everyone vote for their favourite!



Be sure to follow all public health guidelines in your area.



Car Wash

A great way to take a task off someone's to-do list while converting them into a supporter of your cause.

Find a location that's easily visible from high-traffic areas. You'll also want to make sure you have plenty of space to wash, dry, and collect money from customers.

Cooking Class

A cooking class is a great way to interact with your community in a relaxed, creative environment. Ask your employees or friends if anyone would be interested in leading the class, or turn to the experts and hire a chef to take the lead. Charge a flat registration fee or offer a fundraising minimum for supporters to earn their spot in class.



Walking Challenge

Start a virtual fitness challenge! Invite your friends, co-workers, and neighbours to compete in a daily step challenge. Charge a participation fee as a donation to get involved!

Participants can track their exercise using an Apple Watch, FitBit or Strava app and submit their results!

FUNDRAISING IDEAS

Bowling Tournament

Like all other tournaments, ask each team to fundraise a minimum amount for entry. You could also recruit partners to sponsor lanes or uniforms where they can feature their logos.



Craft Sale

If Pinterest has taught us anything, it's that the do-it-yourself aesthetic isn't going anywhere. Gather talented friends and family members to help create and sell custom crafts, like bracelets, paintings, keychains, or hand-stitched blankets.

Comedy Night

Laughter is one of the most powerful sources of connection. Recruit community members, local performers, and up-and-coming comics to show off their talents at your comedy night event.

Sell entry tickets and encourage participants/spectators to show additional support through the form of food and beverage purchases for suggested donation amounts.



PLEASE NOTE THAT STORAGE SPACE IS EXTREMELY LIMITED. THE BEST WAY TO HELP CHILDREN, YOUTH, ADULTS, SENIORS, AND FAMILIES EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS IS THROUGH A MONETARY DONATION OR GIFT CARD THAT WILL PROVIDE ESSENTIAL SERVICES AND SUPPORTS.

IF YOU WISH TO DONATE PHYSICAL ITEMS PLEASE CONTACT BLUE DOOR'S OFFICE MANAGER BEFOREHAND AT:

BARB.LATOUR@BLUEDOOR.CA OR (905) 898-1015 EXT. 232