



WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Kim Sekulow





Voices of Service Script

By Preshus Howard

Slide 1: Title Slide (≈45 seconds)

Good [morning/afternoon/evening], everyone. I am Preshus Howard, Southeastern Region member of the 2026-2028 Fundraising Committee.

Today I'm excited to introduce *Voices of Service Unity Project*—a community talent showcase that brings together creativity, collaboration, and service.

This is an opportunity for us to connect with our community in a meaningful way while raising support for a cause that truly matters.

Slide 2: What is Voices of Service? (≈1 minute)

Voices of Service is a collaborative event centered around a community talent show.

It's designed to highlight local talent—whether that's singing, dancing, music, poetry, or other creative expression—while also raising funds for a shared cause.

What makes this project especially impactful is the partnership component. We work alongside another organization to co-host the event, which helps expand our reach and strengthens our connection within the community.

Slide 2: Purpose & Impact (≈1 minute)

The purpose of this event goes beyond entertainment.

It allows us to support a meaningful cause, provide a platform for individuals to share their talents, and create a sense of unity within our community.

Events like this bring people together in a positive, uplifting way. They remind us of the power of connection, creativity, and service working hand in hand.

Slide 3: Who Can Participate? (≈1 minute)

One of the greatest strengths of Voices of Service is its inclusivity.



We can invite singers, dancers, musicians, poets, artists—anyone with a talent to share. If you know someone that can juggle, sign them up!

Participants can be children, teens, or adults, making this a truly intergenerational event.

By opening the door to everyone, we ensure broad community involvement and a diverse, engaging program.

Slide 4: Community Partnerships (≈1 minute)

Partnerships are at the heart of this project.

We can collaborate with schools, arts programs, and service organizations such as Rotary, Lions, Kiwanis, or Shriners. Youth groups like scout troops and other GFWC Clubs are also great partners.

It's especially important to look for organizations that align with our mission, particularly those that support women's empowerment.

These partnerships not only help share the workload, but they also build lasting relationships and expand our impact.

Slide 5: Event Features (≈1 minute)

This event can be as creative and engaging as we want it to be.

In addition to the performances, we can include guest judges or an emcee to bring energy to the event.

We might present a 'Spirit of Service Award' to recognize a standout performer or a partner organization.

We can also include a spotlight moment during the show to highlight our organization, our partner, and the cause we're supporting.

Slide 5: Fundraising Opportunities (≈1 minute)

There are several ways we can generate funds through this event.

We can sell tickets and secure sponsorships from local businesses or community supporters.





A fun option is 'vote by donation,' where audience members donate to vote for their favorite performers.

We can also include a silent auction, raffle—if permitted—and concessions or bake sales.

These multiple income streams help maximize the event's success.

Slide 6: Benefits to the Community (≈1 minute)

Voices of Service offers meaningful benefits to the community.

It builds stronger connections between local organizations and encourages volunteerism.

It provides a platform for individuals to shine and be recognized.

And most importantly, it raises support for causes that directly impact our community.

Slide 6: Benefits to Our Club (≈1 minute)

For your club, this is a powerful opportunity.

It increases our visibility and helps people better understand who we are and what we do.

It also creates opportunities for membership growth, as people see our impact firsthand.

And it gives our members a chance to work together on a hands-on, rewarding project.

Slide 7: Call to Action (≈45 seconds)

We invite others to join us in making this event a success.

There are many ways to get involved—by partnering with us, sponsoring the event, performing, volunteering, or attending.

Every contribution, big or small, helps us create something meaningful.

Slide 8: Closing (≈45 seconds)

In closing, Voices of Service is more than just a talent show.





It's an opportunity to educate, energize, and empower our community through collaboration and creativity.

By working together, we can create an event that not only entertains but truly makes a difference.

Together, we can educate, energize, and empower our community through service and the arts.

Thank you!





Fundraising & Membership

By Yvonne Ford

It's not always about the money.

Fundraising isn't just about raising money for your club, although that's an important part; it is also about:

1. Raising energy
2. Bringing awareness
3. Community spirit
4. Bonding members to one another

Combining fundraising builds lasting memories, friendships, and fun. It bonds members through a shared, sustainable goal.

Here are some ideas of blending fundraising, awareness, community spirit, and bonding members to one another:

1. Raising Energy:

Engage members. Explore the skills and creativity of your members. Delegate and encourage members to find their right fit to use their talents within the club or for the fundraiser.

2. Bringing Awareness:

- **Social Media:** Use social media to advertise upcoming events and then after the event share pictures of what a wonderful event and how much fun everyone had.
- **Advertisement:** Use posters, brochures, interest cards and pass them out to members to share.
- **New Members:** Have a sign-up sheet at your next fundraisers for potential new members

3. Community Spirit:

- **Local Partnerships:** Engage local businesses for sponsorships to strengthen community ties



4. Bonding Members to one another

Fundraiser: Fundraisers can be friendship builders: welcome each participant and show them how much fun members are having together, the joy of serving together and how each member is valued and needed.

“Fun”-raising: When Fundraising becomes fun it draws in both existing and new members who are inspired by the joy, purpose, and friendship they see in action.

Key Success Factors

- **Transparency:** Clearly show where money is going
- **Inclusivity:** Offer various ways to contribute, such as non-monetary donations or volunteering, allowing everyone to participate.
- **Local Partnerships:** Engage local businesses for sponsorships to strengthen community ties.
- **Fundraising Ideas:**
 - **Upcycled Community Fair:** An eco-fair featuring local artisans selling goods made from recycled materials, with booth rentals and entrance fees helping to raise funds
 - **"Ditch Your Car" Week-a-thon:** Participants get pledges per mile walked, biked, or taking public transit to work for one week.
 - **"Plant & Sip" Workshops:** Host a succulent or herb planting workshop with local plant experts, charging a registration fee that includes materials.
 - **Christmas Tree or Holiday Lights Collection:** Charge a fee to pick up trees after the holidays for recycling or composting, utilizing volunteers to foster community interaction.
 - **Community Garden Initiative:** Turn vacant public land into a community garden, using it to teach about local food systems while selling produce to fund future educational workshops.



New and Updated Ideas for Successful Fundraising

Hello, everyone! Are you looking for some new or updated ideas to boost your fundraising efforts? Today, we would like to share several creative strategies that can help energize your club and support your community.

First, let's talk about collaboration. By sharing resources and expertise, larger organizations can empower smaller groups to reach their fundraising goals, fostering unity and growth across the board. Cimi Douglas from GFWC Georgia will share some creative and Outside the Box ideas for you to try.

Consider hosting pageants, an idea brought to us by Preshus. Pageants provide not only a fun and engaging event for participants and attendees, but also an excellent opportunity to raise funds through entry fees, sponsorships, and audience support.

Bingo or trivia nights are another fantastic option, will be presented by Debra. These events are popular, easy to organize, and can draw a wide audience. Whether you choose classic bingo or a themed trivia night, both options offer a lively atmosphere and great fundraising potential.

Gift card giveaways, recommended by Yvonne, can add excitement to your fundraising efforts. By partnering with local businesses or purchasing gift cards, you create a prize-driven event that encourages participation and donations.

Kim is presenting a Wine cork dollar wrap, a unique twist, where participants contribute funds by collecting corks from parties, dinners and other events.

Sandi will bring us Dollar Bill themed letters as a fundraising idea.

We hope what we share today will offer a variety of ways to refresh your fundraising strategies. I encourage you to consider these options and tailor them to your club's needs. Thank you for your attention, and best of luck with your fundraising!

Our first speaker is Cimi Douglas. Thank you Cimi!



Fundraising & Thinking Outside the Box

Cimi Douglass, GFWC Georgia 3rd VP Membership
June 2026 Convention

Fundraising today looks very different than it did even a few years ago. To be successful, we have to think outside the box—and always remember: Promote Early, Often, and Everywhere.

Marketing can make or break your attendance. Start promoting 8–10 weeks in advance, using a mix of social media, email, and good old-fashioned word-of-mouth to build excitement and momentum.

Consider Setting up a Seed Fund

One of our clubs generously contributed funds to establish a **Seed Account** for our organization. This fund is designed to support the growth and success of fundraising initiatives that fall outside of our approved annual budget.

The Seed Account provides access to startup capital when the President or Executive Committee (EC) identifies an opportunity to host a special fundraising project not previously budgeted. This ensures that leaders are not personally responsible for covering upfront expenses such as supplies, deposits, or event-related costs.

How It Works

- A fundraising event is identified that is not included in the current budget.
- A request is submitted to GFWC Georgia for seed money to cover startup expenses.
- Upon approval, funds are distributed and must be used exclusively for the proposed fundraiser.
- After the event, the borrowed amount is repaid to the Seed Account using the proceeds generated.

Key Principles

- The Seed Account operates as a **loan, not a grant** — full repayment is required.
- Repayment comes directly from the proceeds of the funded event.
- All requests are subject to review and approval by the GFWC Georgia Executive Committee.

Benefits

- This program empowers our clubs to think creatively, dream bigger, and take initiative in planning impactful fundraising events. It removes the burden of personal financial risk while providing the support needed to bring new ideas to life — ultimately strengthening our ability to serve our communities and achieve our fundraising goals.



For those who love “Buy Once, Give Twice” opportunities—whether through raffle baskets, silent auctions, or online fundraisers like Flower Power—here are a few ideas that have proven successful with our Georgia clubs:

- Rada Cutlery – Offers a 40% return on sales with a wide variety of products. One club partnered with a local butcher/meat company to showcase items and catalogs, creating a collaborative and highly promoted fundraiser.
- Mother’s Day Pop-Up Cards – Sold for \$15 each, with the club mailing the card directly to a loved one. Purchasers also submitted photos of their mothers, which were compiled into a heartfelt video tribute set to music. This added a personal touch that many shared on social media—organically promoting GFWC Georgia.
- Engraved Brick Campaign (Brick Markers) – Perfect for clubhouse renovations or legacy projects. Bricks cost around \$20+ (plus shipping) and can be sold for \$75–\$100. Offering different sizes and colors for various donation levels increases appeal. With strong promotion through social media, local radio, and newspapers, one Georgia club raised over \$10,000. People love the chance to honor loved ones and be part of something lasting.
- Light It Up Fundraisers – Light-up items are always a hit during fall festivals and the holiday season. Bobo balloons, purchased for around \$1.25–\$1.49, were sold for \$15 each. One event sold 800 balloons at the Georgia Festival of Trees, generating approximately \$10,000.
- Pet Calendar – A current favorite! For \$10, supporters can feature their pet in the calendar (10 photos per page or \$100 for a full page). You can also sell dates for birthdays, anniversaries, or memorials. It’s a simple, community-driven fundraiser with strong emotional appeal.
- Restaurant fundraising – [Restaurant Fundraisers | Easy Nonprofit Fundraising Idea | GroupRaise](#) Type in your location, and they will list a restaurant that will host. Our State organized a Krispy Kreme Fundraising, and we received almost 50% of sales, but the consumer received \$130 value.

In addition to shopping, I love experience-based fundraising, which can be online or paired with your event. Why? Experience-based fundraisers feel fun rather than transactional; they create connection and community. It appeals to a wide range of ages, encourages repeat participation, and when people learn something new, they walk away feeling enriched—and proud to support your cause. If you’re attending an event, wouldn’t it be so much more fun if you can enjoy unique hands-on experiences.

Thinking outside the box doesn’t mean complicated or expensive. It means creating **memorable moments** that bring people together while supporting meaningful work.

So here are a few experience-based fundraisers that I wanted to share.



Wish upon butterfly event – there are companies that sell butterfly release kits for weddings, memorials – you can tailor this into a Wish Upon a Butterfly or Wishes on Wings, where wishes take flight event. One site sells painted lady butterflies for 4.25 each – you can sell them for \$25 for the event ceremony. Think about the add-ons at this celebration, pink lemonades, butterfly pins, facepainting, and crafts, etc.

GFWC Georgia hosted a festive Holiday Express virtual experience on Zoom, inviting participants to join the fun for just \$25. The interactive event featured six leaders from our Southern Region, each sharing a unique “how-to” segment filled with creative and entertaining holiday ideas. Prior to the event, attendees received a supply list so they could follow along from home and create alongside our presenters. The evening was filled with inspiration—from learning how to fold napkins into elegant Christmas trees for holiday place settings, to creatively wrapping wine bottles into beautiful, gift-ready packages. Guests were also treated to demonstrations on mixing festive holiday cocktails, designing a stunning tablescape, preparing a delicious dessert, and assembling the perfect charcuterie board—complete with flower-shaped meats and cheeses arranged into a beautiful Christmas wreath. This experience not only sparked creativity but also connected our members in a fun way to celebrate the season.

What about hosting an Ugly Christmas Sweater Glow Bowling Night! *Invite families to join in the fun by wearing their most outrageous holiday sweaters.* No sweater? No problem! Offer guests the option to purchase one or arrive early to decorate their own—just provide the materials and a little creative inspiration. Take it up a notch by securing lane sponsors to help offset costs. Then let the games begin! Not only will participants enjoy a night of glow bowling, but they can also compete for prizes like Most Creative, Ugliest, and Funniest Sweater. It’s a festive, high-energy event that brings the whole family together for laughter, creativity, and a little friendly competition!

LEAVE THE SPRINKLES WITH US! Gingerbread House Decorating Fundraiser
Skip the mess. Skip the stress. Keep the memories.

Host a festive, hands-on holiday experience where *we provide everything—and you don’t have to clean your kitchen!* Admission includes Gingerbread house kit, Icing, candy, sprinkles & décor, all decorating tools, Table coverings & full clean-up, You decorate. We handle the mess. Don’t forget add-ons – a green grinch punch served in a lightbulb glass, bobo balloons, cookies, etc.

What about a Steeped in Style - A Tea Party Experience Fundraiser

Steeped in Style is a modern tea party fundraiser featuring hands-on stations where guests learn delightful skills while enjoying tea, treats, and conversation. Guests rotate through curated experiences that celebrate creativity, hospitality, and connection—all while supporting your service projects.

Interactive Stations
Cake Decorating Station





- Guests decorate a mini cake or cupcake set
- Learn basic piping techniques and simple decorative touches

Mini Floral Arrangement Station

- Create a small floral arrangement using seasonal blooms
- Tips on color pairing and flower care
- Guests take their arrangement home in a teacup or small vase

Tea Tasting & Pairing Station

- Sample 3–4 teas (black, green, herbal)

Tea Table Styling & Napkin Art

- How to set a beautiful tea table
- Creative napkin folds and place-setting ideas

Hat & Fascinator Styling Corner

- Try on tea hats or fascinators
- Photo opportunity + “Best Hat” friendly contest

Hometown Hoedown - A Southern Social Fundraiser with BBQ & Boots

Hometown Hoedown is a high-energy, Southern-flair fundraiser blending BBQ, music, and interactive stations that celebrate hospitality, style, and good old-fashioned fun. Guests rotate through experiences that feel like a backyard bash meets polished Southern entertaining—all while supporting meaningful community projects.

Interactive Stations Line Dancing Boot Camp

- Learn 2–3 popular line dances (beginner-friendly) Led by a local dance instructor or dance club

Southern Cocktail & Mocktail Mixing

- Create classics like bourbon lemonade, peach smash, or sweet tea spritz

Sip • Style • Savor - A Hands-On Happy Hour Fundraiser.

Sip • Style • Savor is an interactive happy-hour-style fundraiser where guests rotate through themed stations to learn simple, impressive skills they can recreate at home. Think cocktails, charcuterie, and elegant entertaining tips—all while supporting a great cause.

Interactive Stations

Cocktail Creation Station-Sponsored by a local bartender, restaurant, or liquor store

- Learn how to make 2–3 signature cocktails (and a mocktail option)
- Tips on garnishes, glassware, and batching drinks for parties

Charcuterie Board Styling Station- How to build a balanced board (cheeses, meats, fruits, spreads)

🎀 Napkin Folding & Table Styling Station

- Learn 3–4 elegant napkin folds for holidays and special events

Thank you! Cimi Douglass



PAGEANTS

By Preshus Howard

Our club, the GFWC Kentucky Barbourville Junior Woman's Study Club, proudly hosts the Annual Daniel Boone Festival Royalty Coronation each October in conjunction with the Daniel Boone Festival in our town. This cherished weeklong celebration is officially kicked off with our coronation

event.

In the weeks leading up to the festival, we accept applications for four age-based categories: Miniature Queen (kindergarten girls), Miniature King (kindergarten boys), Princess (sixth-grade girls), and Queen (11th-grade girls). Each participant is honored at a special picnic hosted by our club, featuring group photos, activities, and a sponsored meal.

To build community engagement, candidates' photos are displayed in local business windows for 4–6 weeks alongside the previous year's winners. Participants also contribute to a collaborative service project by donating items to local food banks and Blessing Boxes. In addition, Queen candidates are invited to attend a formal tea hosted by our club.

Fundraising is central to the coronation. Each week, we recognize the leading candidates in each category based on funds raised. Donations are collected through designated envelopes at four local banks, where our Club Treasurer gathers them weekly and delivers them to a CPA for secure counting and recordkeeping. To ensure fairness and transparency, no club member knows individual totals—only the final cumulative amounts are revealed on Coronation Night.

During the coronation, the candidates who have raised the most funds in their respective categories are crowned as winners. In addition to monetary contributions, local businesses and community members generously support the event by donating items and gift certificates, which are awarded to the winners.

This event has had a significant impact on both our club and our community. One hundred percent of the proceeds are reinvested locally, supporting a variety of initiatives and needs. Over the years, fundraising totals have ranged from \$5,000 to more than \$100,000. Regardless of the total, this event remains a beloved tradition—one that brings our community together in celebration and service.



BINGO/TRIVIA NIGHTS

Hosting a Bingo Fundraiser By Debra Capuano

What to Know:

Nearly every state restricts bingo to nonprofit organizations. Licensing requirements vary by state but share a common structure: prove your organization qualifies, submit detailed paperwork, pass background checks, and follow strict rules on prizes, record-keeping, and how the money gets spent. Federal tax rules add another layer, because the IRS treats gaming income differently depending on how and where the bingo is conducted.

Nonprofits that typically qualify include organizations recognized by the IRS under Section 501(c)(3) (charities, religious organizations, educational groups), 501(c)(4) (social welfare organizations, volunteer fire companies), and sometimes 501(c)(5) (labor and agricultural organizations).

The IRS is clear that gaming itself is not a charitable activity — it's a business and a recreation. An organization cannot exist solely to run bingo games; the games must support an underlying exempt purpose, and gaming cannot be the primary activity without risking the organization's tax-exempt status.

Getting a License:

Eligibility starts with the organization itself, not the individuals running it. States generally require the sponsoring group to hold a recognized tax-exempt classification and to have been actively operating for a minimum period before applying. Two to five years of continuous existence is common. This waiting period exists to prevent people from creating shell nonprofits just to get around gambling restrictions. Senior citizen groups sometimes get a shorter path, particularly when the games are limited to their own members.

Individual eligibility matters too. People involved in managing or conducting the games must clear a background check. Felony convictions and prior gambling-related offenses will disqualify someone from participating in bingo operations in most states. Some states look at whether the person has been "sufficiently rehabilitated" since a conviction, but a clean record is the safest path. States also commonly require that everyone working the floor — callers, cash handlers, card sellers — be a bona fide member of the sponsoring organization, not a hired outsider.

Cannot skip getting a license:

Operating bingo without proper licensing turns a regulated charitable activity into illegal gambling. Penalties vary by state but typically include misdemeanor or felony charges depending on the scale of the operation, fines, seizure of equipment and proceeds, and permanent disqualification from obtaining a license in the future. The organization's tax-exempt status can also be at risk if the IRS



determines that gaming was conducted in violation of state law, since the federal bingo exclusion from unrelated business income explicitly requires compliance with all state and local laws.

Start the game:

Gather materials: bingo cards, markers, and a random number generator or bingo balls.

- Distribute bingo cards to each player, ensuring they have different combinations.
- Explain the rules: players mark their cards when numbers are called, aiming to complete a specific pattern.
- Randomly draw numbers using your generator or balls, announcing each one clearly.
- Monitor the game, checking for winners and verifying their cards.
- Award prizes for completed patterns, and consider multiple rounds for added fun.

What to Know:

Every state caps how much you can award in prizes. The specific numbers vary, but individual game prizes are commonly limited to \$500 or less, and total prizes per session are often capped in the low thousands.

Progressive jackpot games sometimes operate outside normal prize limits, with the jackpot carrying forward to the next session if nobody wins within a set number of calls, but these games have their own detailed regulations governing how the prize accumulates and when consolation prizes are awarded.

Where the money goes is heavily regulated. States require that net proceeds from bingo flow to the organization's stated charitable purpose, not into the pockets of individuals running the games.

Administrative expenses like rent, equipment, and supplies are allowed but typically capped as a percentage of revenue. The exact split between charitable distributions and allowable expenses varies by state, but the core rule is the same everywhere: bingo exists to fund the mission, not to generate personal income.

Advertising restrictions:

Promoting your bingo games isn't as simple as posting a flyer wherever you want. Most states restrict how bingo can be advertised, and the restrictions are tighter than what you might expect for a charity event. Common rules prohibit advertising that portrays gambling as a path to wealth, targets minors, or makes misleading claims about prize amounts or odds. Many states require that any bingo advertisement include a responsible gambling message with a problem gambling hotline number.



Reporting requirements:

Organizations that report more than \$15,000 in gaming revenue must complete Schedule G (Form 990), Part III, which breaks down gross revenue, prizes, facility costs, and other direct expenses separately for bingo, pull-tabs, and other gaming. Schedule G also asks whether the organization is licensed in each state where it conducts gaming, whether any licenses were revoked during the tax year, and what percentage of gaming activity occurs at the organization's own facility versus an outside location.

On the player side, bingo operators must file Form W-2G for any winner whose prize meets or exceeds \$2,000 in 2026. That threshold adjusts annually for inflation. Regular gambling withholding does not apply to bingo winnings, but if a winner fails to provide a valid taxpayer identification number, the operator must apply backup withholding at 24%.





GIFT CARD GIVEAWAY

By Yvonne Ford

Daily drawings for the Month

A fun and easy fundraiser:

No venue is needed

No set up

No cleanup,

No centerpieces

No food to worry about.

Buy your raffle tickets for 30 chances to win a gift card in the month of choice.

Number tickets are pre sold.

1 ticket for \$10.00

3 Tickets for \$25.00

Members collect gift cards from the community or donate at least two \$25.00 cards.

All Numbers are put into a Bin and mixed well

A number is chosen every night by two members and announced on Facebook Live

A Chairman is needed to organize the gift cards and keep track of the winners.

Fun event especially for the winners.



Sample Letter:

The Boardman Poland Junior Women's League invites you to participate in an enjoyable and entertaining "Gift Card Giveaway". You would be supporting a very worthwhile cause, NOAS. This organization provides essential support and services to children who are unable to live with their biological families.

NOAS works tirelessly to place these children in safe and nurturing foster and adoptive homes, ensuring they receive the care, stability, and opportunities they need to thrive. NOAS offers a range of programs including foster parent training, family support services, and advocacy for children's rights, all aimed at promoting the well-being and positive development of every child in foster care.

Please join us for our "Gift Card Giveaway" the entire month of November. One winner per day. Each ticket is entered for all 30 days of drawings. Raffle tickets are \$10 each or 3 for \$25. Proceeds from this event will be donated to NOAS.

*How can you help? **Purchase tickets, donate a gift card or service for our raffle, make a monetary contribution, or consider being a corporate sponsor.** For more information and tickets, please call event chairman. You can help make our "Gift Card Raffle" a tremendous success!*

*The **Boardman Poland Junior Women's League** is a non-profit organization dedicated to addressing the most pressing needs of our community, local families and many charitable organizations. Over the past 44 years we have raised and donated over \$750,000.00 back to our local community.*

Your support for our event and our benefactor, NOAS, is appreciated. We thank you for your support.

Sincerely

President/Chairman, Boardman Poland Jr. Women's League



DOLLAR BILL THEMED LETTERS

By Sandie Neal

There's something small—so ordinary, so familiar—that we barely notice it anymore. It slips through our hands, hides in our wallets, gets crumpled in pockets and dropped into tip jars. But this tiny, overlooked thing carries real power: **one single dollar**.

Now imagine taking that simple dollar and turning it into fuel for hope, fuel for action, fuel for something bigger than any one of us. That's the spark behind this idea.

The idea behind this challenge is simple—you choose a letter, or a set of letters, that represent a powerful word tied to your mission. Then turn everyday dollars into extraordinary impact.

Members are challenged to find dollars stamped with those letters. Suddenly, generosity becomes a scavenger hunt. A game. A movement. In Missouri, we look for G, I, and F—but you can choose any letters that symbolize your purpose. Whatever you choose, the meaning is what makes it powerful.

And here's the best part: anyone can participate. Everyone can succeed. No one is left out. This challenge costs nothing to start—no supplies, no setup, no risk. From the very first dollar collected, the momentum begins.

When you launch this at a meeting, the excitement comes alive. Hold up a single dollar and ask everyone to imagine the power hidden inside something so small. Then reveal the twist: not all dollars are created equal. Every bill carries a Federal Reserve letter—and those letters are about to become the heartbeat of your mission.

Introduce your chosen letters. Invite members to check their wallets, pockets, and purses. Laughter starts. Curiosity sparks. People love the hunt, and they love contributing in a way that's simple, meaningful, and fun.

Create a visual moment—a board, a jar, or a display. As members find their letters, have them come forward and add their dollars. That first wave of participation sets the tone. It shows that even the smallest gesture becomes powerful when shared.

And the magic doesn't stop there. Encourage members to keep searching in their daily lives until the next meeting. Momentum grows when people feel part of something that's building week after week.

So now it's your turn. Choose your letters. Launch your hunt. Everyone can join and when each of us gives just one meaningful dollar, we create something far bigger than the bill itself. We create a movement built on heart, hope, and shared purpose.



Let's keep hunting. Let's keep giving. When we unite around a mission, even the smallest act becomes unstoppable.

One dollar. One letter. One extraordinary impact.





Sip, Save, Support: Turning Happy Hour into a Fundraiser

Another Out of the Box Fundraising Idea

By Kim Sekulow

The Idea:

Challenge members, friends, and family to save wine corks from their happy hour moments and turn them into donations!

How It Works:

- Enjoy your favorite wine.
- Save the cork.
- Jot down the wine name + quick thoughts.
- Wrap the cork with \$1, \$5, or more.
- Bring corks to a meeting or event.

Why It Works:

- No upfront cost
- Minimal effort
- Fun and engaging
- Builds community
- Creates a shared wine list
- Raises funds easily

Small corks. Big impact.

This visual is to give you an idea of creative ways to collect the corks. Without the dollars wrapped around the corks this is just a recycling effort. By wrapping each cork with money you raise funds and help your



community as well.



POWER OF PUBLICITY

By Billie Williams SCR Fundraising

Communications.....“The Power of Publicity”

(accessories- noisemakers, horns, bells, etc.)

Step up to the podium and blow the horn and ring the bells, just make noise in general.....

Ladies, welcome to the “It’s Better to be SEEN & HEARD Segment” of our presentation, so let’s make a little noise

Ask ladies to stand up, clap, cheer and just make a lotta noise for just about 5 seconds....

Then ask them, “Do you think they heard you in the hall? In the next room? Outside? Do you think whoever heard you is wondering ‘what the heck is going on in there?’.

Well, that is what you must do if you want a successful fundraising event. You must pique the interest of the public if you expect them to support your efforts. And one of the best ways to do that is?..... You gotta make some noise. And I don't mean just volume wise, but across the entire spectrum of the advertising universe.



IN PRINT- like the local newspaper or handheld flyers and window posters; visit with store and shop keepers and ask permission to use their windows, bulletin boards, or counter space for your signs or info (create a sign that has a catchy title and include a QR Code that can deliver much more information right to their phone)

BY WORD OF MOUTH- talk about it to your friends, neighbors, people at church, in the grocery store, on the street.

ALL AVAILABLE MEDIA- use social media (FaceBook, Tic-Tok and web postings and if you are lucky & have access to radio or Television use them as well; Even the post office can be used, send out postcards invites and reminders and don't forget that postcards are a great place to put the QR Codes.

It is equally important to gauge your community, talk to other organizations to make sure that your offerings don't conflict or overlap.

Do whatever it takes that is within your power to get your fundraising message out to the public and especially your target audience.

And this is the type of information that you must share:





What the Fundraiser is: Raffle, Auction, Bake Sale, Purse Bingo, Spaghetti Supper etc. (if using a meal be sure to advertise what you will be serving, from entrée to sides, including beverages and desserts) Don't be afraid to think outside the box when it comes to types of events.

Who is sponsoring the Fundraiser: Your Club/Organization (here is a good spot to show off your GFWC Logo)

Where and when will it be - Time and location are a must as far as info goes. If it is a raffle, when will the drawing be and if they must be present to win.

Who or what will benefit from the funds accumulated and if it is a long-term goal, make sure to mention that as well. Every good fundraiser must have a beginning and an end.

The Aftermath – Make sure that you utilize as many outlets as possible to let the public know how successful your fundraiser was and again let the public know where and how the funds will be utilized.

Again, I say to you, if you want to have a successful fundraiser, you “gotta” make a “lotta” noise and bring plenty of wanted attention to your event.

(I may try to bring some sort of noise makers for the attendees)





INTERACTIVE ACTIVITY

By Debra Capuano

Fundraising GFWC Style

A successful fundraiser starts with asking the right questions about
Fundraising Goal

What is the purpose of the fundraiser, determine whether the goal is to raise a specific amount of money, increase awareness about GFWC or gain new members.

Audience Identify your target donors and supporters. Consider their interest in GFWC, past donation history and what type of event would be most appealing.

Budget What is the event budget, what is the break-event point. Include all costs [venue, catering, promotion] to determine the minimum amount to cover expenses.

Communication Will you reach members through email, phone calls, social media or person to person contact.

Event type GFWC members; options include but are not limited to auction, bingo, gala, live or virtual event, walkathon, etc.

Have the theme be consistent with the GFWC mission, ensuring consistency between the event experience and GFWC to strengthen member connection and understanding.

Raffles, Silent

Auction, Live Auction Ideas within the event to raise funds

Impact Consider both financial and non-financial outcomes, including member engagement and GFWC brand visibility

Outcome How will the success of the event be evaluated? Funds raised, number of new potential members. How will members be thanked?

Team of Volunteers Team members should be assigned roles for planning, promoting, sponsors and day of event planning to ensure a smooth running event.

Results How will members be retained after the event?



Q&A

Sandie Neal





WRAP UP/DOOR PRIZES

Kim Sekulow

