## **How to Set Up a Restaurant Fundraiser**

So you've decided your not-for-profit's next fundraiser is going to be at a restaurant. Here's how to set up the event and get the best results possible.

1. Start planning your fundraiser at least 30 days in advance.

2. Work with your group to pick a couple of dates for the fundraisers. Restaurants will want to do them during the week, so make sure you have dates on Monday through Thursday.

3. Find a local restaurant to help you. The restaurant should be local and convenient to get to within a few minutes in evening traffic.

4. You have a day and you have a restaurant. Now it is time to promote. Some restaurants will give you flyers and stickers to hand out; some have you do your own. If you need to have the flyers brought back into the restaurant for your organization to get credit, make sure you get the flyers out to the public. For elementary schools, see if the fundraising restaurant will throw in a class party for the class with the biggest turnout. Use email. Use Facebook. You get the picture: get the notice out to everyone in the neighborhood to stop by.

5. Get volunteers to help you the day of the fundraiser. Have people greeting your group as they come in the door. Some restaurants will let fundraisers work behind the counter. Wendy's has allowed us to use their Wendy's outfit: it's always a hoot to see a principal dressed up and serving at one of these events. Bring your mascot costume as well.

6. Have fun! When everyone hears about the great time people had at the fundraiser, more will show up at the next one.

RESTAURANTS!!

* [Arby's](http://www.usbeefcorp.com/giving-back/#benefit) US Beef Corp gives back 15% and owns many Arby's restaurants across the western part of the country from Illinois, Missouri, and Kansas to Idaho, Wyoming, and Colorado.
* [BD's Mongolian Gril l](http://www.gomongo.com/community/fundraising/)Great way to fundraise for churches, PTA, and other non-profit organizations.
* [Bertucci's](http://www.bertuccis.com/dining-dollars-fundraising) Bertucci's DINING FOR DOLLARS allows your organization to enjoy a great meal and raise money for a great cause. Bertucci's is located in the northeast of the United States and gives back 15%.
* [BJ's Restaurant and Brewhouse Fundraisers](http://www.bjsbrewhouse.com/kids-and-families/fundraisers) BJ's Restaurant and Brewhouse will host a fundraising event for your school, organization or charity. The standard fundraiser donates 15% of the total food and soft beverage purchase from guests who bring in flyers for your event.
* [Blaze Pizza](http://blazepizza.com/fundraising/) Blaze pizza is located across the United States and provides 20% back to the organization.
* [Boston Market](http://www.bostonmarket.com/community/fundraising/) Boston Market provides a 15% donation on sales. They provide you with a flyer and event tickets. Restaurants are located throughout the United States.
* [Bruster's Real Ice Cream](http://brusters.com/fundraising/) Every Brusters Real Ice Cream store offers fundraising options. Find a local store in most states east of the Mississippi.
* [Buffalo Wild Wings](https://www.buffalowildwings.com/fundraiser-application/) BWW has their Eat Wings, Raise Funds initiative that helps out local organizations near BWW restaurants.
* [Buca di Beppo](http://www.bucadibeppo.com/fundraising/) A Buca Fundraising Event will earn 15% for your non-profit organization. These Italian restaurants offer family-style dishes great for sharing with all the participants in your fundraiser.
* [Buona Beef](http://buona.com/fundraising/) Chicago area Buona Beef restaurants have a Buona Benefits Night program, with 15% going back to the non-profit. If you like Italian Beef sandwiches that rival Portillos, this is your fundraiser.
* [Burger King stores operated by Tri-City Foods](http://www.heartlandfoodcorp.com/benefit_nights.aspx) Tri-City Foods operates Burger King restaurants in six Midwestern states. They donate 20% of event sales (from a limited menu) to your not-for-profit organization.
* [California Pizza Kitchen](http://www.cpk.com/cpkids/programs/) CPK advertises 20% back through their fundraisers. CPK also has a great Scout program, where Scouts can make their own pizzas.
* [Cheeburger Cheeburger](http://cheeburger.com/fundraising.asp) Cheeburger Cheeburger helps you every step of the way, from creating flyers to making the night fun.
* [Chevys Fresh Mex](http://chevys.com/fundraisers/) Chevys says it gives 20% back to nonprofits from fundraising events.
* [Chick-Fil-A](http://www.chick-fil-a.com/Kids/Local) Chick-Fil-A offers four types of fundraisers; check with your local store.
* [Chili's Give Back Events](http://www.qdi.com/chilis/Chilis.htm) Chili's give back events provide a 15% return for all vouchers presented on the night of the fundraiser.
* [Chipotle](http://chipotle.com/email-us#philanthropy) Chipotle offers in-restaurant fundraisers to certain types of nonprofits including K-12 school groups. An online application is required.
* [Chuck E. Cheese School Fundraisers](http://www.chuckecheese.com/events/fundraising) Chuck E. Cheese School Fundraisers receive 15% on sales. This is a great fundraiser for early grade school students.
* [CiCi's Pizza Buffet](http://www.cicis.com/faq) Cici's says to contact individual stores about fundraisers.
* [Culver's](http://www.culvers.com/) Culver's restaurants are usually locally owned and the owners are usually kid friendly.
* [Elmer's Restaurants](http://eatatelmers.com/category/in-the-community/) Not all Elmer's Restaurants participate in Restaurant Nights, so be sure to call your local Elmer's in the states of Washington, Idaho, Oregon, and California.
* [54th Street](http://www.54thstreetgrill.com/fundraisers.html) 54th Street restaurants are located in St Louis and Kansas City, Missouri, and San Antonio and Dallas / Fort Worth, Texas. A fundraising event for your school, organization or charity can earn 15% of the sales.
* [Foster's Grille: Home Of The Charburger](http://www.fostersgrille.com/community/request-fundraiser-info/) Foster's "Dining for Dollars" program will give back 10% to your non-profit organization. Foster's Grille has family restaurants in Virginia, Florida, Maryland, and North Carolina.
* [Friendly's - Fundraising](http://www.friendlys.com/about/fundraising/) Friendly's typically do their in-restaurant fundraisers on Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday.
* [Fuddruckers](http://www.fuddruckers.com/) Another restaurant where I have seen advertisements for Fundraisers.
* [Go Roma](http://www.goroma.net/content/pdf/goroma_community.pdf) Go Roma Community Partners, their fundraising program, makes it simple for organizations to raise money by planning an event and eating at Go Roma restaurants.
* [Greene Turtle Sports Bar & Grille](http://thegreeneturtle.com/fundraising-community-support) The Greene Turtle Sports Bar & Grille helps local organizations through its Funds for Friends program on selected Tuesdays. This restaurant is in Virginia and Maryland.
* [Isaac's Famous Grilled Sandwiches](http://www.isaacsdeli.com/fundraising.asp) A community night at Isaac's will earn your organization 25%. Issac's are located in south-central Pennsylvania.
* [Jamba Juice](http://www.jambajuice.com/partnerships/fundraising) Jamba Juice offers beverages, smoothies, juices, and snacks. They offer discount cards and catering for fundraising events.
* [Jersey Mike's Subs](http://www.jerseymikes.com/news/giving.php) Jersey Mike's recently opened a shop in our neighborhood and did a great job partnering with all the local schools.
* [Kona Ice](http://www.kona-ice.com/giveback-programs/) All across the country, Kona Ice LOVES to give back to schools, sports teams and organizations. Since 2007, Kona has raised over $3 million for local communities. This is a little different in that Kona comes to your event.
* [Lone Star Steakhouse](http://www.lonestarsteakhouse.com/DineDonate) Lone Star's Dine & Donate is an easy way to raise money for your charity. They will donate 15% of your guests' checks back to you.
* [Lou Malnati's Pizzeria](http://www.loumalnatis.com/fundraising) Another favorite Chicagoland pizzeria offering a fundraiser night with 20% going back to the non-profit.
* [Maggie Moo's](http://www.maggiemoos.com/) Call your local Maggie Moo's ice cream place to see if they participate in an event you can host that's called Celebrity Scoop Night.
* [Marie Callender's Restaurant & Bakery](http://www.mariecallenders.com/community-fundraising) Marie Callender's offers two types of fundraisers: pie sales and dining-in (percentage policy for the latter not explicit on the website).
* [Margaritas Mexican Restaurant](https://www.margs.com/) Margaritas Mexican Restaurant offers a unique and authentic Mexican dining experience featuring traditional Mexican recipes and decor.
* [Max & Erma's](http://www.maxandermas.com/fundraisingdonations/) Max & Erma's advertise 20% return on their website and give some great tips for a successful fundraiser.
* [McDonald's](http://www.mcdonalds.com/) Some local McDonald's have local nights. Check with yours, as this is always a kids' favorite.
* [Moe's Southwest Grill](http://www.moes.com/about-moes/community/) Moe's makes fundraising for your non-profit organization fun and easy.
* [Ninety-Nine Restaurants](http://www.99restaurants.com/community/) Ninety-Nine Restaurants' "Dining for a Cause" nights are great across the New England area.
* [Noodles & Company Fundraisers](http://www.noodles.com/) Noodles & Company offers fundraising events yielding a percentage of sales. Contact a local manager for details.
* [Oberweis Ice Cream Stores](http://www.oberweis.com/web/fundraising.asp) Oberweis Ice Cream offers fundraising events where you get a percentage of sales.
* [Panda Express](http://www.pandaexpress.com/Fundraising) Let Panda Express help you raise money for your school, organization, club or team. Tell friends and family to dine in or take-out at Panda Express and 20% of the event sales will be donated to your organization.
* [Panera Bread: Fundraising Nights](https://www.panerabread.com/en-us/company/fundraising-night.html) Panera has a sliding scale for payouts with the top payout at 20%. On the minus side is that if you don't get at least 20 orders, then you don't get a dime.
* [Pei Wei Asian Diner](https://www.peiwei.com/philanthropy) Pei Wei will donate 20% of proceeds to your non-profit organization that supports culture, art, and diversity. You can choose lunch or dinner fundraisers.
* [Pizzeria Uno Chicago Grill: Dough Raisers](http://www.unos.com/raisers.php) Dough Raisers earn up to 20% of sales.
* [Portillo's](http://www.portillos.com/good/) Chicagoland has been waiting a long time for this one. 20% return on a Portillo's hotdogs restaurant fundraiser.
* [Potbelly Sandwich Shop](http://www.potbelly.com/Company/FundraisingAndDonations.aspx) Raise 25% for your not-for-profit organization by hosting a Restaurant Night. Or for smaller organizations, run a Shake Fundraiser.
* [Raising Canes](https://www.raisingcanes.com/canes-and-your-community) Great chicken and 15% back for your event.
* [Red Robin Gourmet Burgers](https://www.redrobin.com/about) An in-restaurant fundraiser is available for schools.
* [Roti Mediterranean Grill](http://roti.com/fundraising/) Roti offers 20% to non-profit groups.
* [Rubio's School and Church Fundraisers](https://www.rubios.com/fundraisers/) Rubio's offers fundraisers for schools, church groups, sports groups, philanthropic causes or other non-profit initiatives.
* [Sonic](https://www.sonicdrivein.com/) Contact your local Sonic drive-in about whether they offer fundraising events.
* [Souplantation and Sweet Tomatoes](http://www.sweettomatoes.com/funraisers/) Souplantation and Sweet Tomatoes advertise their Fun-Raisers. Give it a try if you have one in your neighborhood. 15% is returned to the organization.
* [Wendy's](http://www.wendys.com/) Each local Wendy's is different. We always get a great crowd when going to our local Wendy's on a school night.
* [Yogurtini Fundraisers](http://www.yogurtini.com/fundraising/) Yogurtini offers a delicious and fun way to raise money for your non-profit group. Located in Arizona, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska.