



Camp Ta-Kum-Ta





Transitioning from Staff Driven Special Event Fundraising to Volunteer Driven Event Fundraising

November 7, 2014



Camp Ta-Kum-Ta





Events



- How many of your camps have events?
- What types of events do you have?
- How much revenue do your events bring in each year?





Reasonable Cost Guidelines



- Direct Mail (Acquisition)
- Direct Mail Renewal
- Membership programs
- **Benefit Events**
- Donor Clubs/ Support Groups
- Vol led Solicitations
- Corporate Solicitations
- Foundation Solicitations
- Capital Campaigns
- Planned giving programs

- \$1.25 to \$1.50 per \$1.00 raised
- \$.20 to \$.25 per \$1.00 raised
- \$.20 to \$.30 per \$1.00 raised
- \$.50 per \$1.00 raised
- \$.20 to \$.30 per \$1.00 raised
- \$.10 to \$.20 per \$1.00 raised
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- \$.20 per \$1.00 raised
- \$.10 to \$.20 per \$1.00 raised
- \$.20 to \$.30 per \$1.00 raised

Source: James Greenfield, "Fundraising Fundamentals" 2nd Ed. Wiley, 2002 p.499.



Use Events to Increase the Love

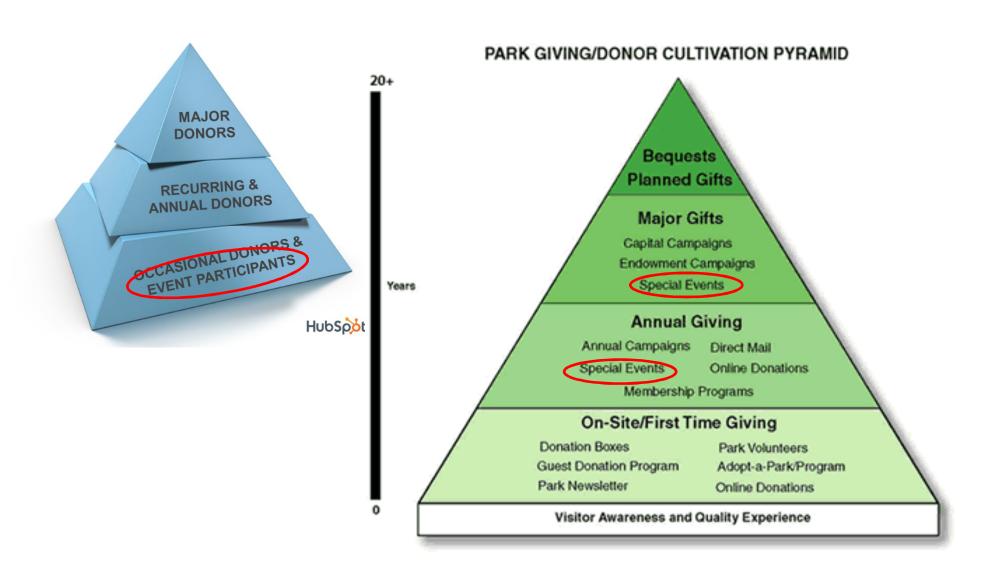


- A great opportunity to educate donors and prospects on the importance of your mission, programs and services
- A chance to further establish and solidify the relationship between an individual and your camp
- An outstanding opportunity to publically recognize both individuals and those who have played a central role in your growth and success



Donor Pyramid







Types of Events



Internal vs. External







SEPTEMBER IS CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

"LIKE" Shearer Volkswagen of South Burlington on Facebook and they will DONATE \$5 to CAMP TA-KUM-TA.







Camp Ta-Kum-Ta's Events



Internal (Raise Approx. \$200,000):

Lobster Bake

30th Anniversary Gala

Motorcycle Ride





Camp Ta-Kum-Ta's Events Internal



PROs:

- They have become an established part of community life
- •They draw attention to specific needs and empowers people to address them
- •They stand out from other local special events
- •We know our donors, we can ask new donors OR existing donors to sponsor or to attend
 - Find event sponsors
 - Seek In-kinds donations for design, printing, entertainment, venue, flowers, etc.
 - Seek sponsors for food, alcohol, dessert, etc.
- Silent & Live Auctions/ Raffles

CONs:

•Timely, costly, and can burn out donor base

\$\$\$ mainly comes from sponsorship & auctions NOT from registration fees OR ticket sales



Camp Ta-Kum-Ta's Events



External (Raise Approx. \$350,000):

- •Yankee Sportsman's Classic
- Hockey Tournaments
- Calcutta's
- Community Theater productions
- •St. Patrick's Day event at local Irish pub
- Super Bingo event
- Golf Tournaments
- Car Shows
- Italian Tasting Dinner
- Cupcake Eating contest
- Kickball tournament
- Color Run and Santa 5K
- Halloween event
- Online auctions



Spin-A-Thons and Zumbathons
Community Nights at local restaurants

Harvest Festivals

Ta-Kum-Ta Thon

Head Shaving event

Hot Air Balloon Ride

Longest Drive Comp.

Poker Tournament

AND MANY MORE.....







Camp Ta-Kum-Ta's Events External



PROs:

- Paid staff time is not being used, yet camp is still receiving the funds
- Volunteer organizes each event

•CONs:

- Less control over the event
- Event organizers don't always know your existing relationships with donors
- Donors may be approached without you knowing
- Relying on one volunteer, risky



The Problem



Events face the same challenge:

It is anticipated that increased support will be required from staff, to sustain participation levels.



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The Solution



- Establish a volunteer organizer for each event
- Migrate event planning, execution and overall management to the volunteer event organizer
- Transition staff from hands-on event execution and management to event oversight



- Board Members
- Former Board Members
 - Current Donors
 - Event Guests
 - Volunteers
- Clients and their families
 - Alumni
 - Parents of Alumni

- Staff
- Vendors
- Leaders in business community
 - Local foundations
 - Religious organizations
 - Community organizations
 - And....and....and....



Community Event Forms



We provide the event organizer with:

Our Community Event Guidelines

We require:

- Community Event Agreement to be approved BEFORE the event is promoted or our name is associated with the event
- We review all promotional materials

What we provide:

- Advice on event planning
- Promotion of event
- A camp rep to speak at the event
- Banner, Brochures, Stickers
- Volunteers (at select events)
- A camper to speak (at select events)

Camp Ta-Kum-Ta's Community Event Agreement Form We ask that you please read the Camp Ta-Kum-Ta Community Event Guidelines prior to filling out this form **Event Organizer Contact Information** First Name * Last Name Organization Name (if applicable) * Address * State: * Postal Code: * Phone (day): □ Business ☐ Home ☐ Cell Phone (evening): ☐ Business □ Cell Phone (day of event) □ Business ☐ Cell Additional Contacts/Committee

MOST IMPORTANT: ALWAYS UNDER PROMISE AND OVER DELIVER!!!



Committee/Team

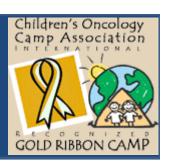


A group of people linked in a common purpose

- Members with complementary skills generate synergy through a coordinated effort
- Allows each member to maximize his/her strengths and minimize his/her weaknesses.



Event Team Chart

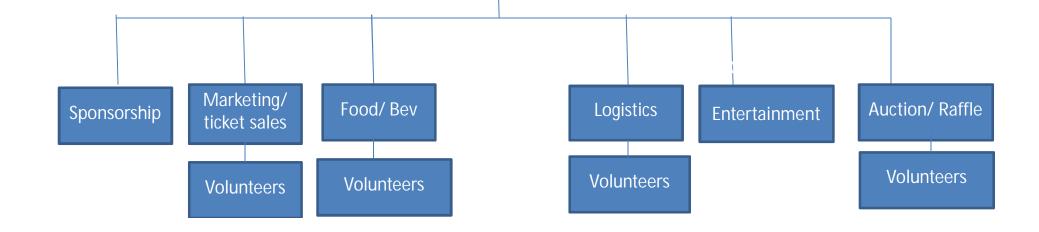




Camp Staff (Oversight)

Volunteer, Event Organizer







Volunteer Event Organizer Engagement



- Communicate, communicate, communicate
 - □ Keep event organizers informed
 - Conduct well-managed meetings
 - ☐ Establish regular team meeting schedule☐ Action items
 - Be respectful
- □ Volunteers have other priorities this is not their "PAYING" job
- ☐ If you say you will do something to support a volunteer, do it, and do it in a timely manner



What could go wrong?



- Lack of participation from volunteers and stakeholders
 - Conflicting priorities
 - Inexperienced event organizer
 - New team / new volunteers
- Unclear or changing scope and objectives
 - Unrealistic estimates
- Reality intrudes: changing business climate or priorities
 - Problems with sponsors and vendors



How important are event organizers???



Event Organizers are JUST as important to us as Major Donors!

Ways to do this:

- Check in with them throughout the year
- Invite them to come for lunch during your camp program to see the camp in action, so they can see first-hand what their support makes happen.. SHOW THEM THEIR IMPACT
- Send them a letter at the end of each year, summarizing all of the great things that happened throughout the year, which they helped make possible
- Invite them to other events (free of charge) throughout the year
- Don't only contact them when it is time for their event again



Is it Ok to turn down an EVENT??



YES!!!!!

Before signing off on an agreement, make sure you clearly discuss how the camp can support the event

Ask yourself:

- Do they require YOU to sell the tickets?
- Does the success of the event sit on your shoulders?
 - Do they expect you to get a lot of volunteers?
- Do they expect you to provide the raffle prizes, silent auction items, etc.











Successful Events



Things to remember....

- Stick to the mission and make sure it comes through the flowers and the frills
- Keep it short, sweet and simple!
- A well established event becomes part of the community's identity,
 strengthening relationships between the non-profit and the people it serves
- Events need to be more than just fundraisers; they need to be fun-raisers, too!
- Successful events should remind participants about the mission of the nonprofit
- People remember a successful event and look forward to it every year. Make it memorable by making it unique



Until There's a Cure There's a Camp

Questions





Contact Info



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