



North East Advocates Together
Power Lunch Notes
Topic: Fundraising
August 27, 2014

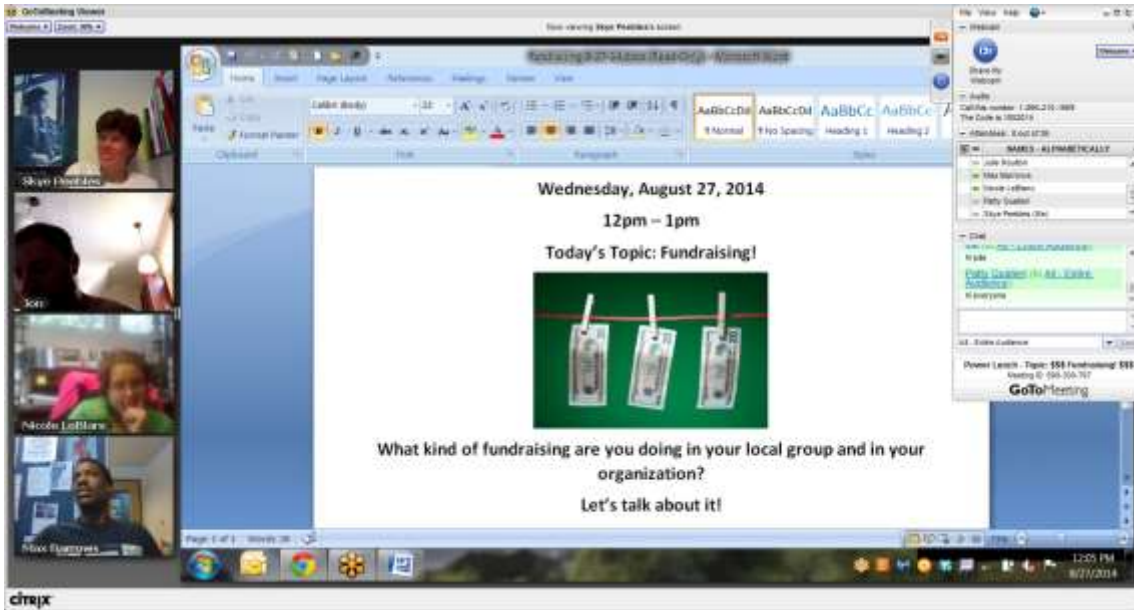
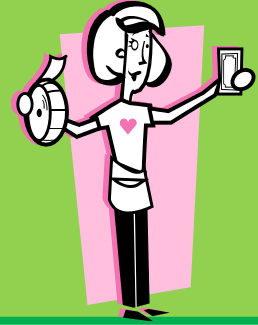


Photo:
Folks on the Power Lunch GotoMeeting, chatting about fundraising ideas and experiences!

Attendance:

Jon McGovern – Maine*

Skye Peebles – NEAT

Hilary Clark – NEAT

Patty Quatieri – Mass

* call leader

James Boucher – Rhode Island

Max Barrows – Vermont

Nicole LeBlanc – Vermont

Julie Moulton - Maine



Fundraising that States or Local Chapters Have Done Before:

- 50/50 raffles
- Bake sales
- Fundraisers with a company like Shaws
- Car washes
- Working with Elks Club to hold a pancake breakfast
- Applebee's flapjack fundraiser
- Most big restaurants will do a supper to benefit the organization
- Selling kitchen knives
- Flowerpower – selling flowers - <http://www.flowerpowerfundraising.com/>
- Selling candles from Yankee Candle
 - Organization keeps a percentage of the profits
- Vermont is holding a 20th anniversary gala to raise money on Nov 15. They will sell tickets and have things like silent auctions to raise money.
- Mass has an event at Salisbury Beach every year – music, fun, dance.
- Garage sales
- 5K/ 10K walk – regional coordinators have monthly planning meetings to organize



- Mass helped VT learn how to get sponsors for our annual conference.

Sponsors are local businesses who donate money or items to the event.

- Important to plan really far ahead
 - Write a nice letter. The letter should say what your organization does and how you are going to use the money that is donated.
 - Go to local banks, grocery stores, local shops, restaurants (McDonalds, Subway, etc)
 - Ask local groups to go to their local businesses – help them with what to say
 - Send thank you notes!!
- Hold a craft fair with stuff made by self-advocates and allies
 - Have an annual giving campaign – send letters to everyone you know and ask them to donate to your organization.
 - Send letters and packets of info out
 - Tell them what you are raising money for! What will you do with it?
 - Tell them about your organization



Our Dream Fundraisers/ Fundraiser Ideas – Ideas We Have for Future Fundraisers

- Have a lot of people volunteer together on one big fundraising event – do a big regional or national fundraiser together
- Have a huge dance
- Sell fake tattoos (this is an idea that SABE might use for their 2014 conference)
- Have a huge bake sale – breads and cookies
- Have a walkathon to raise money
- Have a roller-skate-athon
- Have a dance-athon! People can get pledges to dance for 2, 3, 4, 5 hours.
- Have a concert in the park
- Bowling tournament
- Have raffles for cool items (like TVs or bikes)
- Go on the radio – telethon or radio call in
- Use community access TV to promote your fundraiser or to have a fundraiser live on TV



- Do a bucket brigade – at an event, have lots of people going around with buckets to collect money. It can be any kind of money – change, dollars, checks, etc. At the end of the day count how much money you made.



- Need a big bucket with a good lid – cut hole in top
- If people give more than once, they get a sticker. The sticker gets them discounts on food, rides, other events.

- Make calendars and sell them
- Do a big event across the region – like a 5K in every state that is held on the same day at the same time



- Tollbooth with your local firefighters – they stand out in the road with their boots collecting money for your organization. Customize the container they use to collect the money (for example: a humane society collected the money in dog food bags)

- Make up a new idea that is like the Ice Bucket Challenge for ALS. Something that is easy to do and share and is catchy!



- Local at local companies to see if they have foundations or if they make donations. For example:
 - Red Sox foundation
 - Ben and Jerrys
 - Ocean State Job Lot

- Walmart
- Shaws
- Celtics, Pawsox, Bruins, Yankees
- Look for grants from other organizations and big companies

Other Ideas

- Spread the word in the newspaper
- Call the media (like local news stations) to cover your event on the news
- Look for people or places that will match the money you made. This will double the money you make.
- Ask people on your board to help out with raising money/ finding people to donate.



Here are some notes from the Maine SUFU Newsletter about Fundraising:

- FUNdraising can be fun, but only if chapter members are excited about following through with the action steps to make it successful.
- It is helpful if the chapter knows how much money they want to raise and are invested in the reason for raising money.
- Making a list of action steps needed for a successful fundraiser can help members choose a fundraiser they are willing to follow through with.

- Chapters may want to consider a 'Restaurant Night' fundraiser.
The great thing about a Restaurant Night fundraiser is that it requires very little investment from your team.
 - Many restaurants offer nonprofit groups an opportunity to host a "Restaurant Night" fundraiser. Restaurants will agree to give you a percentage of the sales on a designated night for all of the customers that your organization brings to their business. Here is a link for how to host a fundraiser restaurant night:
[Hosting a restaurant night fundraiser](#)
 - Applebees offers Flap Jack Fundraisers, here is a link:
[Applebees FlapJack Fundraiser](#)
- Chapters can also ask other local organizations such as the Elks and Eagles to partner in hosting a pancake breakfast or dinner for community members.
 - Krusteaz will refund part of the cost of pancake mix;
<http://www.krusteazgivesback.com/> and McDonald's will donate a 5 gallon container of Hi-C and cups.

Thank you to everyone for joining!

Next Power Lunch:

Wed, 9/17/14

Topic: State Self-Advocacy Conference

Leader: Patty Quatieri from Mass