FUNDRAISING IDEAS

1. **Corporate Matching**: Take advantage of corporate matching gift programs. Many folks may work for companies that have a program like this—their donation could double simply by filling out a form from their Human Resources department and following the steps to submit a matching gift.
2. **Tribute Donations:** Encourage your friends to make their donations in “honor of,” “support of,” or “memory of” someone they know.
3. **Online Auction:** Get friends and family to donate things for you to sell on an internet auction site. Make sure to let bidders know that the items selling price is going towards your fundraising efforts for Gay City.
4. **Social Media:** Boost your fundraising efforts and promote your participation by fundraising with Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, etc. Your posts will automatically include a link directly to your fundraising page.
5. **Benefit night at a local restaurant**: Check in with your favorite local hangouts. Many restaurants already have programs in place to help you fundraise at their establishment. Be a guest bartender? A guest griller? Or hand out coupons to their establishment for a percentage of profits for that evening.
6. **TV Show Party:** Host a party in celebration of the premiere or finale of a favorite TV show. Serve donated hors d’oeuvres and drinks. Ask for a suggested donation at the door. This idea is great for inviting friends over to watch your favorite awards shows like the Oscars®, Emmy® Awards, Grammy® Awards, etc. Ask a local restaurant that has a big-screen television to allow you to have the party there and donate a portion of the food and beverage sales.
7. **Gala Night:** Host an elegant or formal party. Have food and beverages donated and ask for a specific suggested donation.
8. **Game Night:** Host a game night; Monopoly, Trivial Pursuit, Scrabble, Poker, Bridge, Bingo. Serve donated food and drinks. Ask for a suggested donation at the door.
9. **Wine-Tasting Party**: Have a wine and cheese-tasting party. If you know anyone (who knows anyone!) who owns, manages, or works in a winery—ask if they will host it! Ask for a suggested donation at the door. Blind tastings are fun—or dress up the event with some very special vintages.
10. **Silent Auction:** Ask some local businesses to donate items or gift certificates and hold a silent auction at your fundraising event, or on a payday at work. Things like a book of car wash certificates, $10 off dry-cleaning, movie passes, play tickets, restaurant gift certificates, pet grooming, a week of free coffee; the list is endless! Set minimum donation limits and allow people to bid them up. Some walkers even get their place of business to agree to set up a silent auction for one item every Friday at work. They get something donated and the office has fun bidding on something new each week.
11. **Ask your yoga instructor or personal trainer for a donated class:** Invite your friends to attend a special yoga/ aerobics/step class donated by a trainer. You ask for a specific suggested donation amount at the door, and the trainer gets the chance to build their client base. It’s a win-win for all.
12. Organize a scavenger hunt and send participants running all around town. You can stick to the classic scavenger hunt where people have to find and collect items or you could go digital and have individuals or teams simply take a picture of an item or location. Each person or team will need a camera, pen and paper (to write their names to prove they aren’t using a fake photo), and a garbage bag.
    * Charge a registration fee in advance and offer a headstart or hints in exchange for donations on the day of the hunt. Assign bonus points for the individual or team who collects the most trash and recyclables as they explore your city.