

# IDEAS TO RAISE FUNDS

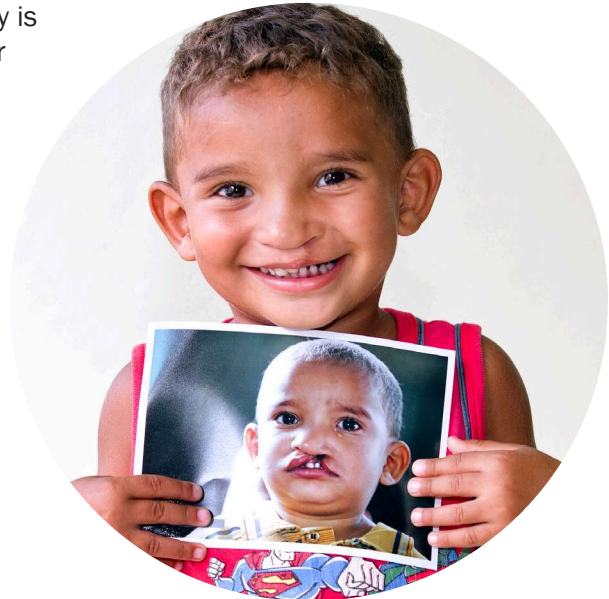
There are many ways to become a Smile Ambassador and help Operation Smile Canada raise funds to ensure children receive the life-changing cleft surgeries they so deserve!

It can be as simple as inviting friends and family over for a BBQ, or a potluck dinner to celebrate the #LongestDayofSMILES). It could be a more planned event like the suggestions below. We encourage you to raise funds all year up to and including the longest day of smiles!

Here are some ideas to get your creative wheels moving...

## INDIVIDUAL IDEAS:

- First, set up your own Longest Day of SMILES fundraising page.
- Next, set your goal - minimum \$240 to start, or multiples thereof.
- Make your own gift - just to get things started.
- Make a list of people you can ask.
- Compose your own email or use one of our templated emails.
- Ask your friends/list personally, via email. You'll be surprised at how generous friends and family can be!
- Challenge yourself! An easy way to raise money is to cut some daily or weekly luxuries out of your routine and donate what you would have spent! Some examples:
  - Make coffee at home just once a week!
  - Bring lunch to work one extra day.
  - Or, turn any of the group ideas into one that works for you!



## GROUP IDEAS:

### LACE UP YOUR RUNNERS!

- Gather your group and hit the road! Set a goal around a distance or time for a walk/run and fundraise with a promise to reach it.

### CREATIVE CHALLENGES

- Challenge your community to cut something out for the duration of your fundraising efforts and donate what they would have spent. This can be anything from bad habits to your favourite snacks.

### BAKE SALE

- Cookies = smiles. Who doesn't love freshly baked cookies? Pick a date, notify your neighbours and host a bake sale with proceeds going to help give a child a smile and a new chance at life.

### POTLUCK

- Organize a potluck where each person is asked to donate just \$5 and bring in a food dish that brings them joy and makes them smile! Celebrate your fundraising achievements by chowing down as a group. Invite co-workers who didn't cook to the potluck and charge \$10 per person for a delicious, smile-sharing lunch.

### GAMES NIGHT

- What better way to share a smile (and some laughs)! Get a group together for a games afternoon or night. You could charge a small admission fee to raise funds.

### BAKING COOK-OFF

- Who doesn't love a fresh baked good? Challenge your friends or colleagues to each bring in their favourite treat and get your scorecards ready! You could charge a contest entry fee and donate the proceeds and have a lot of fun.

### HOST A MOVIE NIGHT

- Gather your friends or family for a night full of your favourite feel-good movies! Fundraise your way to it and invite donors to make movie suggestions and be part of the fun.

### CELEBRATE & SMILE

- Even if you can't join or start a team or fundraise, there are still plenty of opportunities for you to transform the life of a child suffering from a cleft condition. As you can see, there are plenty of ideas to host your own fundraiser with friends or family, or you can come up with your own unique idea!