

SECTION VI EVENT IDEAS

There are two different types of events that the chapter can host to benefit the greater good of the community. One is a philanthropy event to raise money or other goods for a charitable organization. A second method, community service, requires the volunteering of time to directly benefit the community. Below are lists of philanthropic and service-oriented activities that your chapter may be interested in implementing.

Be sure to check with the University and IFC to make sure that your event is not already being done on campus.

Philanthropy (fund-raising) event ideas:

- **Car wash** - outside the fraternity house or at a local gas station or shopping mall.
 - **Silent auction** - solicit product donations from alumni or local businesses and display them in a prominent location on campus. Passersby write their names and telephone numbers and bid on a piece of paper located by the item offered. The individual with the highest bid at the end of the day is contacted and requested to submit his/her donation in exchange for his/her prize.
 - **Date Auction** - prizes such as dinners, theatre tickets, concert tickets, sporting event tickets, and skydiving can be requested as donations and then paired up with either a brother or prominent member of the studentbody. The packages are bid on by students, and proceeds go to a designated charity. Such an event is usually held in the campus-gathering place and must be heavily advertised.
 - **Relays** - have a relay that is made up of members of the chapter, running from one end of campus to the other, from one chapter house to another, or from campus to campus. If possible, work with the University's athletic department to see if a game ball for a big upcoming rivalry game can be used. Raise money based on how far you will run. You can raise money for a charity and increase school spirit.
 - **Casino night** - often chapters must have a license, but events such as poker, blackjack, roulette and craps are traditional. Be sure to follow all policies set forth by Delta Chi Law, the University, and the state.
 - **Haunted House** - during Halloween, work with local youth organizations and invite them to the chapter house, which can serve as a place for children to do face painting, carve pumpkins, etc.
 - **Jail/Bail** - members of the chapter or student body voluntarily agree to be placed in a "jail" at a prominent spot on campus. In order to be "released" they raise a certain amount of "bail money," which is donated to a charitable organization.
 - **Camp out on campus** - members camp out at a visible spot on campus, raising money for a charitable organization, based on how long they're camping.
 - **Chili Cook-off** - have members, parents, alumni, community members, etc. enter their chili recipes into a competition. Students and community members can enter the venue for a small cost and taste the various recipes. People vote on their favorite recipe.
 - **Boxed lunches** - solicit donations of food from local businesses (grocery stores). Members put together boxed lunches that include a sandwich, apple, snack, etc. These lunches can be sold on campus and in the community for a small cost. Great during move-in and move-out days.
 - **Spaghetti dinner** - have businesses donate spaghetti, salad, bread, etc. Members prepare the meals and have participants pay a small fee to eat spaghetti meals. Local firehouses or lodges make great venues for this event.
 - **Lemonade stand** - set up a stand on a hot day, and provide lemonade to students for a small cost. This is a great event during move-in and move-out days.
 - **Karaoke night** - sponsors donate equipment and food for the event. Participants pay a small fee to display their singing abilities.
 - **Comedy night** - host a comedy night where students can display their stand-up comic performances. Charge a small admission cost to view the show.
 - **Dance-a-thon** - in the campus dance club or student center.
 - **Walk-a-thon** - possibly from chapter to chapter or campus to campus.
 - **Rock-a-thon** - with a rocking chair in a highly visible area of campus.
 - **Phone-a-thons** - help out area charities, public TV or your university by serving as phone volunteers for their fund-raising events.
 - **Wing-a-thon** - have a local restaurant donate chicken wings. Charge an entry fee to people who want to eat as many chicken wings as they want. This is a great time to provide information about the charitable organization and other forms of entertainment.
- With all "thon" events, brothers participating will seek sponsorship from fellow students, alumni, members of the community, or family, based on a flat donation or a variable donation depending on their performance.*
- **"World's Largest..."** - everybody wants to be a part of history. Host an event that will set a record, and try to improve upon it every year.

- **Odd jobs** - set aside one day when brothers go into the community doing odd jobs for residents. The pay received can go to charity. Mowing lawns, pulling weeds, painting, shoveling snow, etc.
- **Donation booths** - set up donation booths at entrances during sports events.
- **Concert** - arrange for local bands to play for free one night and sell tickets. All money from tickets, as well as food sales, can be distributed to a charitable organization.
- **BBQ** - hold a barbeque one afternoon for students. Hopefully you will be able to get the meat, buns, beverages and condiments donated. Play music and throw the football around. All the proceeds from the sale of hamburgers and hot dogs can go to charity.
- **Movie night** - show a movie for the students and community on the quad or lawn of the campus. Sell food and beverages, with money received going towards a charity. Have businesses donate the screens, projects, and various giveaways.
- **Video game Tournaments** - have participants pay a small fee to be involved in a campus/ community wide tournament. Try to have donors provide large televisions, screens, and prizes.
- **Sports Tournaments** - students and community members enjoy participating in athletic competitions. Host a sports tournament for students, community members, and organizations to enter teams for a fee. Possible sports include: softball, flag football, powder puff football, basketball, kickball, dodge ball, volleyball, Olympic events, golf, bowling, foursquare, soccer, horseshoes, ping pong, a 5 K Run, etc.

Service-oriented event ideas:

- **Cancer screening event** - work with local hospitals, clinics or health service agencies to coordinate cancer-screening tests and educate people on self-exams.
- **Children's hospital** - visit children at a local hospital.
- **Food drives** - during any holiday season brothers can request non-perishable donations from students in residence halls or community residents off campus.
 - Use unique objects to assist with food drives (i.e., cars/ vans). Create a competition to see if the campus can fill the object with canned food.
- **Share a meal** - invite members from an organization to share a meal at your chapter house, or if this is not convenient, take the meal to them.
- **Toy drive** - conduct a toy drive for underprivileged children.
- **Sporting event** - arrange a game of touch football with a youth drop-in center or Big Brothers. Teams can consist of both brothers and youth.
- **Egg hunt** - invite children from a social organization to find hidden eggs around a limited area of campus.
- **Meals on Wheels** - take responsibility as a chapter for one or more meals on wheels routes. Alternate brothers to deliver food to senior citizens each week.
- **Clothing drive** - seek old clothing from either students or others in the community, and donate the clothes to Goodwill, the Salvation Army or similar organization.
- **Helping kids** - serve as mentors for kids via a local school or youth aid group, or sponsor or coach a youth sports team. Take kids to a nearby sports event.
- **Environment** - Participate in the adopt-a-highway cleanup program in your area. Help clean up a local park or public area.
- **On campus** - Check with your Greek system advisor or academic deans. The library often needs assistance moving its inventory. Offer to help new students move in, or assist with new student orientation or admissions department tours. Sponsor an all-campus seminar on substance abuse awareness, or improving gender or multi-cultural relations.
- **Food & shelter** - volunteer to provide regular helpers at a local food bank or homeless shelter. Contact your area Habitat for Humanity agency to help with local projects.
- **Haunted House** - for neighborhood or community kids.
- **Blood donations** - Sponsor a drive and/or participate as donors.
- **Get well greetings** - Design or purchase get well cards or messages, and personalize and send them to local hospital patients, especially kids or senior citizens. Work with hospital staff to insure that no one in the group being addressed is overlooked.
- **Special Olympics** - volunteer to help with this event in your community.
- **Faculty** - sponsor an award to honor outstanding faculty members. Minimize ruffled feelings by honoring several faculty members, not just one at a time.

Specifically in regards to The V Foundation (in addition to fundraising):

- **Men's health week** - coordinate speakers and events on preventing types of cancer and living a healthy lifestyle.
- **Hospital work** -
 - o Become part of the mentoring or assistance programs offered by some hospitals.
 - o Entertain hospital patients during holiday seasons.
 - o Participate in various hospital promotional events.
 - o Write and deliver cards to patients. Develop a pen pal system between members and patients. Consult with hospital staff for suitable messages and to avoid overlooking anyone.
 - o Host a party for hospital patients and their families.
- **Donation collection containers** - to local merchants.
- **Distribute sunscreen** - at golf courses, outdoor sporting events, and other outside activities that expose people to a high degree of sun.

*For more information concerning men's health and The V Foundation, please refer to Section VII of this **BRIEF**.*

Quarterly - The "Campus Scene" section allows your chapter to see what other Delta Chi chapters are doing for philanthropy. If you see something that might work on your campus, feel free to contact that chapter and ask for its input.

Deadlines for the Quarterly are August 1, December 1, March 1, and May 1. See the Quarterly Reference Sheet (found in the Chapter Operations Manual or at www.deltachi.org) for complete instructions on Quarterly submissions. Send pictures! Be sure to put your name and the chapter's name on all submissions.

For additional ideas about philanthropic activities, please contact other Delta Chi chapters, your Greek Advisor, campus service department, www.deltachi.org, and the Delta Chi Headquarters.

If you would like to contribute any ideas to this list, please contact the Director of Chapter Services at the Delta Chi Fraternity Headquarters (chapterservices@deltachi.org).