



## Fundraising Ideas for Retirement Centers

### **Bingo Night:**

Everyone loves playing Bingo, and putting together a Bingo night is simple. You will need a room with lots of tables and a Bingo caller. You can download and print your own Bingo cards for free. Also make a plastic tumbler for hand painted ping-pong balls for selecting each number and you're good to go. Charge either a general admission fee or a fee per game, and give donated prizes to the winners. [Click here for more detailed information.](#)

### **Board Game Night:**

Host a board game night in a card or community recreation room, and have families and team members lend board games. You can either have your guests pay a general participation fee or a fee per game. You can play rounds of games in a tournament style and have a playoff for the winners. Have simple prizes for your winners at the end of the night. [Click here for more detailed information.](#)

### **Community Yard Sale:**

Request a room from your center to collect and store items you will be selling. Advertise your sale and request donations for autism in your community newsletter far in advance. Invite your family and team members to contribute items for the sale to make it more successful and fun. [Click here for more detailed information.](#)

### **Cookbook Sales:**

Recognize all of the talented cooks from your community. Identify where to send recipes as well as a due date in your community newsletter. Compile all the recipes into a cookbook and sell them for donations to Autism Speaks. To make this fundraiser even more fun, host a potluck before you create the book to taste everyone's recipes. [Click here for more detailed information.](#)

### **Letter Writing Party:**

Set up tables and supplies in a large meeting room, have everyone bring a list of people to send letters to, and be ready to start writing! For inspiration you can show a video about autism or invite a parent, grandparent, service provider, or sibling to talk about their experiences with autism. [Click here for more detailed information.](#)

### **Photo/Artwork Contest:**

This is a great way for aspiring photographers and artists to display and show off their work. Ask for submissions from neighbors and set up their pictures like an art show. In order to raise money, make it a juried art show, and everyone in your community can participate by voting. Place a jar, can, or box in front of each picture in which people can place coins or bills to vote for their favorites. Make sure to set up your contest in a high traffic but secure location such as in a dining hall, recreation room, or major hallway. Leave the display set up for at week or two until the contest is over. The winner will be the one with the most money in their jar at the end of the contest. [Click here for more detailed information.](#)

**Puzzle Piece Campaign:**

Sell Autism Speaks puzzle pieces for \$1 to staff, visitors, and neighbors, and display them in a prominent location in your community to raise awareness. You can turn this fundraiser into a competition between floors, wings, or buildings by encouraging each team to sell the most puzzle pieces. Have a prize for the team who raises the most awareness and money! [Click here for more detailed information.](#)

**Stumper Photo Contest:**

Hold a "stumper" photo contest! Ask neighbors and staff members to share a baby picture or childhood photo that they believe no one can identify. Those who wish to guess should make a donation, and those who guess correctly will win a prize.

**Contact your local Autism Speaks office for step-by-step instructions about how to host each of the fundraisers. Also, contact us if you want materials to display at your event such as brochures and Walk Now for Autism Speaks banners.**