



SOCIETY OF PHYSICS STUDENTS

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PhysCon Fundraising Tip #3

Volunteer Services

Recommended for: Chapters well established within the community, upfront cost <\$100

Category: Community Service

Potential funds raised: \$800-1,600/event

Brief Description:

This fundraiser involves SPS students and supporters doing household chores such as cleaning garages, washing windows, and/or raking and bagging leaves for donations from local community members. The utility of this project is that any number of students can participate. The main limitation is the number of projects identified within the community. Prior planning is needed in order to coordinate the work and ensure that it is done in a timely manner.

A coordinator who knows the community is needed to identify community members who need work completed. The coordinator would identify projects, help to set the workdays, and organize SPS students and supporters. Given that several of the projects involve outside work, these fundraisers are ideal for the early fall and late spring. The SPS chapter should plan the event(s) in advance with an alternate date in case of rain.

Up-front costs:

General supplies and simple tools (leaf rakes, biodegradable lawn bags, etc.)

Revenue:

The fundraising potential of this kind of event is substantial for a chapter. On a typical day (say a Saturday), a group of twenty SPS volunteers could conceivably rake 20-40 lawns. If each homeowner donated \$40 per lawn, the total fundraising for the day would be in the range of \$800-1600.

Provided the chapter did 3-4 of these events before PhysCon 2019, the total funds raised could easily be up to \$5000. If an outside donor (or the university) is willing to provide a matching grant, it is conceivable to raise \$10,000 from these fundraising efforts.