

Community Cook-Off

Here's a great, yummy way to get the community involved in the fight against hunger. Basically, you will be hosting a "cook-off" in which people can volunteer to cook their favorite dishes (or a theme dish, like BBQ). Invite the whole community to try the foods and vote for their favorites. Get some community partners to donate prizes. If you get enough, you can have several categories like "Best Dessert", "Best Looking Dish", etc. Be sure to have some sort of presentation and/or information materials available to educate your community about hunger-related issues that are of interest to you. Check with your local soup kitchens, shelters, and food banks to see if you can donate the delicious, fresh leftovers.

Variations

- Charge an entrance fee to all attendees
- Charge a small fee "per plate" to eat
- Charge a fee to enter the competition, etc.
- If you choose one of these options, donate the funds to your local soup kitchen, shelter, food bank, or other hunger/poverty related charity

Some examples for more ideas

- Humble, TX; Lions Club BBQ Charity Cook-Off
http://www.humblelionsclub.com/events/bbq_2007.html
- Eastpoint, FL; Volunteer Fire Department Rib Cook-Off
<http://www.eastpointribcookoff.com/>