Welcome!

WaterAid’s University Team have put together some ways you can fundraise and have fun while socially distancing. From virtual runs to game night ideas – we've got your fundraising covered!

Staying positive and having fun is a core ingredient in the recipe of successfully coping in a crisis. Check out some of our home fundraising ideas below to get that positivity flowing.

Staying in is the new going out - enjoy it!
What’s it all about?

We’ve always worked tirelessly to ensure clean water, decent sanitation and good hygiene for the world’s most vulnerable people. By tackling these three essentials in ways that last, people can change their lives for good. And right now, our work is especially important.

Our teams around the world are working urgently to implement our expertise by providing access to handwashing essentials to stop the spread of coronavirus. By providing essentials, inspiring people and working closely with partners, we can implement immediate and lasting change in some of the poorest communities across the world.

What we’re doing now:

- We’re protecting the most vulnerable people by making sure they have essentials like soap, hand sanitiser and disinfectant.
- We’re promoting hygiene best practice through mass public health awareness campaigns
- We’re campaigning for governments and donors to prioritise getting water and hygiene to everyone

With access to these fundamentals, everything can change
Make a lasting difference

By fundraising for WaterAid, you are unlocking futures, empowering locals and helping people to help themselves. **Together making lasting change!**

Last year alone, WaterAid reached:

- **1,357,000** people with clean water
- **1,356,000** people with decent toilets
- **2,086,000** people with good hygiene

But **we need you**:

- In developing countries, **75% of households do not have somewhere to wash their hands with soap and water**.
- One in three healthcare facilities do not have clean water on site.
- Nearly **800 million people globally do not have access to a source of clean water within half an hour’s journey**.

**What your fundraising can do:**

- **£12** A squat toilet slab
- **£36** A school handwashing station
- **£60** A class on period hygiene
- **£120** Install a new well
- **£500** Renovate a school toilet
- **£1,000** A rainwater harvesting system

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Three reasons your fundraising matters…

**Lennie**: a Nurse in Southern Zambia.

Handwashing with soap is the first line of defence against diseases like Covid-19, something as simple as this can also halve the cases of diarrhoea.

“The availability of handwashing facilities has made my work easier and safer.

**Clean water in our facility greatly helps to prevent the spread of disease.**

**Moustapha & Desire**: volunteers at the local water storage point in Burkina Faso.

The world’s changing climate means that extended dry seasons have increased in Burkina Faso, leading to water scarcity.

“Water is life. It’s water that makes crops grow and provides us with food. It’s also water that gives us health. We use it to do everything.

“Without water we can do nothing.”

**Lilian**: a student in Nigeria.

Girls drop out of school because they are unable to manage their periods privately. 13-year-old Lilian and others like her now have the chance of an education because they have decent toilets.

“I am able to care for myself at school during my period. Whenever menstruation starts, if I am in school I always put pads in my bag.

**Everywhere is now clean. If I want to go to the toilet, I can go to the toilet.**
We're here to make taps, toilets and good hygiene normal for people everyday. But we can’t do it without you!

Building a healthier, more prosperous world for the poorest people can’t be done without clean water, decent sanitation and good hygiene.
Get together (safely) to fundraise!

As we all continue to adapt to living, working and studying virtually for a while, we are also adapting to continue our essential work. By now you know what we do, and why your support is so vital. I bet you’re itching to get your creativity flowing and get fundraising!

We've got some suggestions for fundraising from home to add to your ideas:

Fancy a challenge?

- We know that lockdown has been a challenge in itself. Why not get active, get creative and try an activity with added difficulty?

- Ask your friends, family, neighbours (from a distance) for sponsorship and make your struggle worth it.

“I set myself the challenge of hula-hooping for 26 minutes! It was fun, kept me entertained (and fit) and it was really motivating knowing my challenge will result in change.” - Jade

“Doing the 2.6 challenge was a great way to feel connected to other university society members even though we weren’t seeing each other. It was also a fun way of staying fit and fundraising when there wasn’t much else to do!” - Hannah
Get together (safely) to fundraise!

Party People!

- **But you don’t have to do it alone!** Gather your party people, have some fun and bring about lasting change in the process!

- **Maximise your skills** - you could share your secret skill or recipe in exchange for cash, or organise some virtual fun. Whatever you get up to – you’ll be bringing together your community to have an impact on communities across the world.

- **90s party!** Do you miss and love the 90s? Take a trip down memory lane and host a 90s party from the comfort of your home. Set an entry fee and enjoy the night!
Are you musically-minded?

Are you a musician? A music lover? Here's what we've been up to - could you do something similar?

- **#BathroomSessions**- Hold your own #BathroomSessions: sing, dance and perform your favourite songs in your bathroom like Mel C, Crystal Fighters or Fabio and Grooverider, share it to your friends and leave a donation link! ([Check out all the sets here](#))

- **Festival vibes!** Missing Glastonbury, Parklife, Wireless this year? Hold your own festival at home from your garden to your balcony, recreate the vibes at home, invite some friends over (if it's safe to do so) or go virtual online! Simply charge for each person and dance the day away!

- **Karaoke/open mic night!** Miss events and going out? Why not hold a Karaoke or Open Mic night on Instagram Live, Zoom, with you and your friends where creativity and joy can be found! Set an entry fee, donate and have fun!

If you haven't already, head [here](#) to get even more inspired from our Bathroom Sessions. Is there a secret superstar in you?

Have you heard Zambian popstar Pompi's track Hygiene? It's a bit of a banger - could this inspire a fundraising event?
...or more into events?

Maybe you’re not a musician but take some inspiration from live events or online challenges!? Here’s what we’ve been up to - could you do something similar?

- TikTok Challenge

Why not try out a challenge and film it? From dance routines to #DontRush Challenge.

Check out WaterAid’s very own TikTok Challenge, get inspired and show us your version! Could you be the new Ashley Banjo, or even start your own WaterAid-themed trend?

- Instagram Live!

Hold your event over Instagram live, from conversations to pub quizzes! Have some #IsolationConversations (and leave a donation link).
You can try something alone...

Me Myself and I
Go solo and do your own thing!

- **Give something up.** Why not challenge yourself and give up your guilty pleasure, then get people to sponsor you or donate the money saved! From giving up chocolate or gaming, to committing to #JustWater - tailor it to you and challenge yourself for a good cause.

- **Celebration donation!** Celebrating a birthday, graduation or achievement over Zoom? Expecting a present? Why not receive the gift of giving - your friends and family can donate the money on your behalf or to you. **Classic fundraiser!**
...and send money to support WaterAid

- Unwanted stuff or gifts sale.

Unopened gifts, unworn clothes or unused items, old books... why not sell or auction them on Depop, eBay or Amazon? The platforms are endless and free (or charge a small fee) - fundraising at home made simple.

- What are you missing?

Could you donate it? Coffee, Going out, Eating out.

We are continuing to adjust to the new normal - this means for some it’s no longer grabbing the daily coffee on the way to work or a night out or even eating out. Why not donate what you’re missing to support communities live a healthier life!?  

Quick and simple, yet effective!
But don’t take it from us…
Hear what our student fundraisers have to say

“It was nice to meet people at uni who were passionate about fundraising and raising awareness for a cause as important as this. Not only did we get to throw fun socials and events to raise money for WaterAid, but we also managed to partner up with other charities on and off campus to organise joint events. The WA team have given us as a society so much support throughout the year and we’ve loved working with them.”
- Sruthi

“I’ve absolutely loved being a part of Notts WaterAid group this year from discussing the importance of WaterAid and their work at the freshers fair, to organising and running exciting fundraising events throughout the year. The opportunity to meet new like-minded people and work together to really make a difference has been highly rewarding.”
- Libby

“Fundraising for WaterAid has been one of the most rewarding experiences during my time at university! It gave me an avenue to make new friends, create and be a part of a community of students who are all so passionate about helping others and giving.

I chose to support WaterAid because of their intimate connections to communities around the globe. For instance, I was inspired by their advocacy for women in facilitating toilets, water, and sanitation in parts of the global south, where period poverty is rife.

This meant young girls and women could now focus on getting an education as opposed to simply having to participate in the labour of gathering of water; or skipping school due to the taboo of periods.”
- Nasteha
How to do it?
It's as easy as 1,2,3 (4,5)!

1. Divide and conquer
   However you choose to fundraise, start planning early and give everyone involved (if there are others) a job and deadline. Split up tasks to make sure you’ve got the key things covered including budgets, venues and logistics.

2. Let us know
   We’re here to support you, and we’ve got all sorts of knowledge, materials and resources to help you make your fundraising a success. Keep in touch by emailing universities@wateraid.org

3. Spread the word
   Tell the world about your amazing fundraising. Contact your student newspaper and radio stations, tell your family and friends, and get the word out on your social channels. The bigger the buzz, the higher the total!

4. Keeping it safe and legal
   It’s vital that your fundraising is safe and legal, so make sure you’ve got all the necessary permissions for your activities. Get in touch with us for any advice you might need.

5. Make the most of it!
   Fundraising for WaterAid gives you the opportunity to help communities achieve their true potential whilst helping you gain valuable skills make lasting memories with friends (and even boost your CV).

However you raise your money, it’s easy to get it to us!

For a sponsored event, we always recommend JustGiving – just set up your page, select WaterAid and we’ll receive your funds. Remember that the more you update your page with news about your event, the more likely it is you will raise more money.

Alternatively, gather your funds in your bank account and use our “pay in your fundraising” function on the website – couldn’t be easier!
Thank You!