

Charitable¹

birthday

One of the latest and most interesting Internet trends is the idea of fund-raising². This is the act of raising money in order to help support³ a noble goal. This form of charity is performed⁴ on a grassroots level⁵ and it is the users of a fund-raising webpage who decide which charitable goals⁶ they want to help. To start your fund-raising activity all you need is your good will⁷...

One good opportunity is a sporting event⁸. In the United Kingdom, the home country of fund-raising, a good example would be the vast⁹ number of donations¹⁰ that are made during the famous London Marathon. Runners raise money to celebrate¹¹ their start and the effort¹² they have put in. Then they promote the fundraising amongst¹³ their friends, encouraging¹⁴ them to appreciate¹⁵ the effort and donate what they can towards the event. Therefore the charity honours¹⁶ the challenge¹⁷ taken and the runner has extra motivation to complete the task¹⁸.

Birthdays are another occasion which attracts fund-raisers. More and more people are deciding to set up¹⁹ birthday fund-raising events and ask their birthday party guests and

other friends to donate a small sum of money as opposed to²⁰ a token gift²¹, which the host²² will more than likely not even want in the first place. Therefore the birthday can become an opportunity to do something good for others.

The web portal which first brought this fund-raising idea to Poland is SiePomaga.pl.

"I have always wanted to do something good for society²³. I am aware²⁴ that Poles are not as socially-minded²⁵ a nation as Britain, but as time goes by²⁶ the changes here will become more visible²⁷. Even today one can see a clear²⁸ trend among young people as more and more begin to organize occasional fund-raising events, for instance, birthdays. It often happens that one such fund-raising can crucially²⁹ contribute to³⁰ the



purchase³¹ of a wheelchair³² or help to fund an operation that might change somebody's life", says Patryk Urban, the founder³³ of the website.

Until now SiePomaga.pl has helped to collect almost PLN 400,000 and has significantly³⁴ contributed aid³⁵ towards a large number of disadvantaged³⁶ people who have found themselves in difficult situations because of illnesses³⁷, an accident or other misfortunes³⁸. However, it is not only people are benefiting from³⁹ fundraising. Current donations on the website also provide⁴⁰ help for animals and support various⁴¹ charity organizations.

So next time you have a birthday, or another similar opportunity such as a name day, take a minute to think how you can use such an occasion to help others.

¹ charitable | charytatywny

² fund-raising | kwestowanie, zbiórka pieniędzy

³ to support | wspierać

⁴ to perform | wykonywać, przeprowadzać

⁵ on (a) grassroots level | na poziomie szarego człowieka, oddolnie

⁶ goal | cel

⁷ good will | dobra wola

⁸ event | wydarzenie

⁹ vast | olbrzymi, szeroki

¹⁰ donation | datek

¹¹ to celebrate | świętować, celebrować

¹² effort | wysiłek

¹³ amongst | pośród, pomiędzy

¹⁴ to encourage | zachęcać

¹⁵ to appreciate | docenić

¹⁶ to honour | czynić honory, uhonorować

¹⁷ challenge | wyzwanie

¹⁸ to complete the task | wypełnić zadanie, wykonać pracę

¹⁹ to set up | założyć

²⁰ as opposed to | w przeciwieństwie do

²¹ token gift | upominek, symboliczny podarunek

²² host | gospodarz

²³ society | społeczeństwo

²⁴ aware | świadomy

²⁵ socially-minded | społecznie zaangażowany, oddany pracy na rzecz innych

²⁶ as time goes by | w miarę upływu czasu

²⁷ visible | widoczny

²⁸ clear | jasny, widoczny

²⁹ crucially | najważniejsze, o zasadniczym znaczeniu

³⁰ to contribute to sth | przyczynić się do

³¹ purchase | nabytek, zakup

³² wheelchair | wózek inwalidzki

³³ founder | założyciel

³⁴ significantly | znacząco, znacznie

³⁵ aid | pomoc, wsparcie

³⁶ disadvantaged | pokrzywdzony (przez los)

³⁷ illness | schorzenie, choroba

³⁸ misfortune | niedola, nieszczęście

³⁹ to benefit from sth | skorzystać na czymś, zyskać na czymś

⁴⁰ to provide | zapewniać, dostarczać

⁴¹ various | rozmaity