

GARAGE SALES

A Sale for a Cause

You can get rid of your stuff and support a favorite cause, all at the same time.

Just organize your sale so that part or all of the proceeds go to a charitable cause close to your heart. Here are some examples for inspiration.

BIG CHARITY YARD SALE FOR THE BLUE WATER AREA HUMANE SOCIETY **Port Huron, Michigan**

For more than 10 years, the Big Charity Yard Sale has raised money for the Blue Water Area Humane Society. The organization takes in donations of garage sale items and puts them out in its 9,000-square-foot event center in Port Huron. People drop off collectibles, glassware, kitchenware, books, pet supplies, patio furniture and more. In 2022, the sale raised \$25,000, The Voice reported, and there's usually a line to get in on the first day of the sale. In this type of sale, 100% of the proceeds go back to the organization, but it also provides all the personnel for collecting, organizing and selling.

HOT RODS CHARITY GARAGE SALE FOR THE WARRIOR FOUNDATION FREEDOM STATION **Laguna Hills, California**

This Southern California sale gave 100% of its proceeds to the Warrior Foundation Freedom Station, an orga-



nization that provides a transitional housing options for service members who were injured in the line of duty, those suffering from traumatic brain injury or post-traumatic stress, servicemembers who are undergoing

physical or occupational therapy, and those who are medically retired. Being that a car group put on the sale, it was, of course, full of lots of car accessories, tools, parts, testing equipment and more. However, it also featured

home goods and other items. This is a great way for a niche group to give back and do outreach to others who may be interested in the same thing.

PASSE-PARTOUT: THE LAFAYETTE JOCKEY LOT CHARITY GARAGE SALE **Lafayette, Louisiana**

More than 500 booths are available for sellers at this large lot in south Louisiana. It's a permanent flea market structure, but it also holds an annual charity garage sale. In 2023, the facility donated booth registration fees to the Louisiana Youth Initiative. In this type of sale, sellers pay a fee (\$10 in 2023) to rent a space from the marketplace. They set up their own tables and bring their own goods, but the Jockey Lot provides infrastructure such as coverings against the weather, paved and accessible aisles, food, live music and more.

HOSTING YOUR OWN SALE

You don't have to be as massive as the Jockey Lot or as niche as Hot Rods to organize your own sale. You can simply set up your sale and advertise that a certain amount will go toward your favorite cause or organization. By picking a group ahead of time, you can let them know and get some help with your sale, whether it's extra hands or simply some free advertising. In addition to donating your proceeds, leave donation jars around your sale with a clear story of who this money is going to help.

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BUYER'S TIP

Cash is king. Most larger sales have several ways to pay, but you can ensure that most of your money stays with the charity group in question by paying with cash and avoiding any credit card processing fees.

AD SPACE