

## ***Some Darn Good Ideas For Making Team Names/ Campsite Themes!***

**SOME IDEAS FOR CAMPSITE/TEAM THEMES AND TEAM NAMES GROUPED BY "THEME" (in alphabetical order):**

**EVENT THEMES** - And any group of team themes down below could be your event theme... For example, your event theme could be The Great Wilderness, and people can pick Animal and Nature themes!

- **50 States** - This way, each team can have a state as their theme (thanks to the **Westlake Relay For Life**): - see 50 States under Team Themes below for ideas for every state!!!!
- **Anniversary Themes** - These are ideas to use if your event is reaching its 5<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, or more anniversary, these are great ideas! See also Time Capsule themes.
  - **10 Years Closer to the Cure** - Have your teams have "cure" and "cancer related" themes... This one has a lot of flexibility! (thanks to Mary Ann Hocking)
  - **10 Years of Love, Hope, Relay** - Have your teams have Love or Hope related themes.... (thanks to Mary Ann Hocking)
  - **"10 Years Of Working For A Cure"** - You can have each team have a theme that reflects where they work... For example, I used to work in a dept. that made Powdered cosmetics, so we called ourselves the Powder Puffs, and decorated ourselves with cosmetic puffs... Get the idea? (From Ramesh Moorthy, Baltimore MD)
  - **"10 Years of Dancing for A Cure"** - You could have "dancing themes" for each team. (From Ramesh Moorthy, Baltimore MD)
  - **"Happy Birthday, Relay!"** - Thanks to 'the4blairs' for the inspiration for this theme! Dress in birthday hats, have a birthday cake, etc. and party it up!
  - **"Decade in Review"** - It may be fun to do a decade type theme highlighting such years as the 50s, 70s, or 80s. You can do a "Decade in Review" highlighting the last ten years of your Relay. For cancer education, maybe you could do a "Key Developments of Cancer research within the last decade." Just some ideas. :) (thanks to HopeInLindy)
  - **See also "Time Capsule" themes**
- **Beach Party!** - see Beach themes below under team themes
- **Butterflies, Beaches, and Buffett (as in Jimmy Buffett)** - Thanks to Kerri M. and the Greater Auglaize Relay For Life! - <http://www.auglaizerelay.com/> for sharing this great idea! - *"Our theme for this year is Butterflies, Beaches, & Buffett (as in Jimmy Buffett) Cancer Take Flight On Butterfly Wings Tonight. We are having a live butterfly release at opening & closing (weather permitting). I am sending you a sample of our tickets. I bought butterfly pins off a couple of ebay stores so that the person gets a pin to wear & keep & if they come to Relay they receive a live butterfly to "release cancer" "in honor of" "in memory of" or just for*

*fun. We are planning on having Jimmy Buffett music, butterfly bracelets, sand for the kids to play in, coconut bra contest, plus anything that anyone can think of! We had a committee member whose son had a luau wedding reception, she got all the decorations from that for us to use. We will sell lei's also. Our survivor dinner will be a luau (held in March or April) to hopefully excite our survivors about Relay. Feel free to use any of our ideas for your web site. My husband, best friend & I came up with the theme. We will read this poem at our opening.*

### **Butterfly Indian Legend**

If anyone desires a wish to come true they must first  
Capture a butterfly and whisper that wish to it.

Since a butterfly can make no sound, the butterfly can not reveal  
The wish to anyone but the Great Spirit who sees and hears all.

In gratitude for giving the beautiful butterfly its freedom,  
The Great Spirit will always grant the wish.

So, according to legend, by making a wish and giving the butterfly its freedom,  
The wish will be taken to the heavens to be granted"

- **Carnival For A Cure** - Have all your teams have a carnival/circus theme!!! See Animal and Circus related themes below! (thanks to mamamo777!) You can sell stuffed animals to raise money (if that fits with your local rules! Please check with your committee/staff!)
- **Cartoons/ Cartooning For A Cure / Let's Toon Out Cancer** - See Cartooning below (thanks to many, including IRelay4Mom)
- **The Countries Of the World** - Thanks to many, including IRelay4Mom)
- **Cruisin' For A Cure** - Have a "car" theme for your event... Teams could use any of the car related themes below under the ideas for team themes, such as "Little Red Corvette", "Car Wash For A Cure", "Car Bashers For A Cure",
- **Dancing For A Cure** - Build your entertainment and team themes around Dancing...
- **Games (Cancer is Not A Game!)** - Build your event around each team having a "Games" Theme (See below)
- **Happily Ever After** - Use Fairytale themes, and make your event slogan "Making the Fairytale of a Cure Come True!"
- **Holidays/ There is No Holiday From Cancer** - Have holiday related themes (see below) for campsites and have an overall "holiday" theme to your event
- **Las Vegas/ Vegas/ Vegas Lights!** - Have Vegas be your theme - hold Vegas style fundraising games, etc.... See Las Vegas below for more ideas!
- **"Lights, Camera, Relay For A Cure!"** - A great event theme from the Santa Maria Relay For Life... Make your event about the movies - show movies all night (borrow a projector and hook it up to a VCR), have each team have a movie theme, have "STAR POINTS" (spirit points), have a "STAR SEARCH" talent contest, and so on!

- **Movies/ Night At the Movies** (thanks to Cove Relay For Life & IRelay4Mom) - Use the list of movie themes below, as well as the following movies:
  - King Kong
  - Star Wars
  - Lord Of The Rings
  - Harry Potter
- **Nursery Rhymes (Once upon a cure)** - An event theme that can use the "Fantasy" and "Fairytale" themes below!
- **Patriotic/ USA For A Cure ./Stars and Stripes for A Cure** - (thanks to IRelay4Mom) - use the Patriotic Themes below
- **Saddle UP For A Cure!** - Thanks to Jill - A great Western Theme for your event!
- **Sitcoms / Comedy For A Cure** - Have an event themed around Comedy... get standup comedians (or even one that has had cancer), have improv all night and vote for the best improv standup comedian at your event... Have Funny Themed Laps... Show Comedy movies all night on a TV. Have another for Children's movies, showing Disney movies (Funny ones). Have every campsite have a comedy theme (thanks to IRelay4Mom, and R. Moorthy Baltimore, MD)
- **Sports Theme (overall for event)** - Have a "Sports For A Cure" Overall theme and let each team have a sports theme
  - **Baseball**
    - **All Stars** - DO it like the Football one that is right below - declare your survivors to be "All-Stars"... Have your caregivers be "All Star Relief Pitchers" for providing relief and support to patients... and give "All Star Designated Hitter" Awards to family and friends who have helped care for cancer survivors and those we have lost... Have fun with it! (R. Moorthy Baltimore MD)
  - **Football**
    - **Most Valuable Player** - Have your event be football themed (you can look at decoration ideas under "Sports" below)... Hand out awards for Most Valuable Players - give one to every survivor you meet on the track, give "caregiver awards" to caregivers, and so on... Make it fun and entertaining! (R. Moorthy Baltimore MD)
- **States** - see 50 States
- **Take Me Out To the Ballgame** - Each team could dress up as a Major League Baseball team or use one of the Sports themes below.
- **Time Capsule Themes** - These are a list of diverse ideas that basically "take you back in time"
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- **Under the Sea** - Have Ocean/Boating/Sea related themes for your campsites in your event
- **Wild Wild West!** - A great theme from the Lebanon County Relay For Life - thanks to Laura for sharing - *"The Relay For Life of Lebanon County is taking an exciting trip back in time for Relay 2006! We're going back to a time when horses and cowboys roamed the desert free. When buffalo were plentiful, and the skies were always clear. Back to a time when Wyatt Earp, Buffalo Bill Cody, and Wild Bill Hickok marshalled the territory from Illinois to Nevada. Back to a time when there*

*were no cars and no nuclear plants, and the ozone protected us from sun radiation better. Back when cancer was accountable for far fewer deaths than in today's' world. On behalf of the Lebanon Planning Committee, and our Honorary Co-Chairs Tiffany Bare, Heidi Eck, and Renato Rivera, we invite you to grab your western duds, and jump on board the chuck wagon! Come along and join us at Cedar Crest High School on May 19-20, 2006, as we take this wonderful trip back through time to the Wild Wild West!" What a great idea!!!!*

- **Zoo! Or Life's A Zoo Or Animals For A Cure! -**

## TEAM THEMES

- **50 States!** - This is a great event as well as team theme! Have your event theme be 50 States, and have each team pick a state! There are a few approaches -
  - 1) ***you could have stuff about the state*** - as much as you can think of - if you visit <http://www.50states.com/> there is info on every state!!!!
  - 2) ***use the sports teams in that state*** - Look up baseball, football, basketball and other teams - college or pro - for example - New York - Yankees, Ohio - Ohio State University, and so on!!!! Pick a state that a person on your team is from and is enthusiastic about their teams!!!
  - 3) **3) Pick a state theme and do everything around that - here are some examples:**
    - **Alabama** - Alabama's current state theme is unforgettable (like the Ray Charles song)... Play the song, and have pictures up of survivors that your team knows, and people who have lost the fight - and how they are unforgettable!
    - **Alaska** - Have your theme be the "great outdoors" -have a dog (if they are allowed) pulling a pretend sled, have cut out mountains, fake cross country skiing, fake snow, and more!
    - **Arizona**- Have lots of pictures of Arizona, (like the cliffs and so on), have a stretch of desert, etc...The Grand Canyon is there, too - that could be part of your theme!
    - **California** - Build your theme around San Francisco (Cable cars, the Golden Gate Bridge) or Hollywood (movie stuff), etc.
    - **Colorado** - Play "Rocky Mountain High" - have a "backdrop" of the Rockies, and so on!!!!
    - **Delaware** - "The First State" - Do a theme around lots of "firsts"!!!! The first state... The first person to sign the Constitution, the first flight (The Wright brothers)...
    - **Florida** - could be Sunshine or Jimmy Buffett
    - **Georgia** - Georgia Peach! - Have all sorts of food made from peaches as fundraisers!!!! Dress your team in peach outfits (t-shirts with big peaches on them or something), have the peach color be your site color, and so on!!!!
    - **Hawaii** - "Hula for a cure" - see "Hawaiian Themes!!!!" below (alphabetically).

- **Idaho** - Have Potatoes be your theme - have food with potatoes and offer them for a donation as a fundraiser...!!!! Have your whole team dress up as spuds.
- **Kansas** - Do a Wizard of Oz theme!!! Have a Dorothy on your team, a Toto, and so on!!!! ☺
- **Kentucky** - "we are a big horse state...like Kentucky Derby stuff. We always call that "The Run for the Roses" so maybe you can do something with that and maybe get garlands of roses to use for your campsite and all your walkers wear them around their neck. You can get the artificial ones at Wal-Mart or something really cheap.
- **Louisiana** - Build your team theme around the Mardi Gras! And New Orleans - Pass out beads on the track each lap, and so on! Also see "Mardi Gras"!!! below.
- **Maryland** - Here are some themes: "I'm Feeling Crabby", "Crabbing for A Cure" (have a boat, catch "fake" crabs), "Fishing For A Cure", "Baltimore Orioles for A Cure" (order Orioles T-shirts, etc, baseball hats, etc.). ☺
- **Massachusetts** - Have a Boston Tea Party theme!!! Hold high tea at the event as a fundraiser, have a fake boat. etc. ☺
- **Michigan** - could be Go Blue! (University Of Michigan)
- **Mississippi** - Have your theme be the "Great Mississippi"!!! Have things around the river, river boats, Huck Finn, and more!!!
- **Nevada** - This one is easy ☺ - have a Las Vegas theme!
- **New Mexico** - Have a "Santa Fe" Theme...
- **New York** - Have your team theme be "New York, New York" with Frank Sinatra music and the whole 9 yards!!!!
- **New Jersey** - Have an Atlantic City theme...
- **Ohio** - Show your team spirit and build an Ohio State University Theme!!!! - OSU, Columbus, Ohio
- **Oklahoma** - Do your theme around the play "Oklahoma!"
- **Texas** - Make your theme around the Alamo and San Antonio! Have someone dress up like Davey Crockett!!!
- **Washington** - Do your theme around Washington apples...
- **Wisconsin** - Do your theme around Cheese and Cheeseheads (maybe the Green Bay Packers and cheeseheads?)
- **Advocacy Themes**
  - **Celebration on the Hill** - Reenact a part of Celebration on the Hill - have a picture of the capitol (if you or someone you know went, get pictures), and "advocate" with your other event members to call their local representative etc about cancer related issues, insurance issues, etc.
  - **Lobbying for a Cure** - "advocate" with your other event members to call their local representative etc about issues - whether insurance, research \$\$, etc.
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- **Air Flight Related Themes - See Transportation Themes**
- **Angel Themes - see Religious themes**

- **Animal Themes**
  - **Bear Themes**
    - **Bears For A Cure**
    - **Bears Hibernating For A Cure**
    - **Big News Bears For A Cure - We're Closer to A Cure!**
    - **Cure Care Bears!**
    - **Bearly Closer To A Cure**
    - **Big Top Bears For A Cure or Big Top Bears Don't Hibernate - See Circus Themes (thanks ClayCoTx!)**
  - **Beauty and the Beast, or Beastmasters** - "This is something my daddy came up with the year he passed away. It is the Beauty and the Beast - The Beauty of life is beating the Beast called cancer.... we grill hamburgers all night so we are set off to the side and everyone sees us." (Thanks to 1dadsgirl for this!)... Additional ideas for this: you could 1. Dress some folks as beasts (give them signs as different forms of cancer, and have a "tamer"... You could make it a doctor/scientist type who "tames the beasts". 2. More traditional - beasts and a lion-tamer type, but that strikes us as a little more risqué... :)
  - **Bee Hives** - Dress in 50's clothing and get your hair done in bee hives. Decorate your tent in bee hive colors or go with Yellow and Black! (thanks to the Lewiston-Porter Relay For Life!)
  - **"Bye-You To Cancer!", "Bayou For A Cure" Or "Fishing For A Cure"** - Use a swamp theme and decorate in fishing stuff. You could also have moss and some old cypress wood (5/18/04 - Thanks to Jaime Lavigne for this great idea!)
  - **Cancer Survivor- Kenyan Safari** - Set up a Kenyan Safari at your campsite with the slogan "Cancer Survivor it's not a game, it's life!" - Decorate with African Safari hats, camouflage, and fake pistols that shoot out flags -write "CURE CANCER!" on the flags. Put some straw or something over your tent to make it look more "Grasslands"... It can be a play on Survivor the TV show... (Thanks to Zoomzoom, 5/04)
  - **Cats**
    - **Cure Cats** - Dress as cats, tails and all... Make your tent into a comfy place for cats to lie around... Have cat food bowls (with food you can eat), etc. (Thanks to curebear88!)
  - **Cheetahs Leaping towards a Cure (Frogs, Leopards - also used for Angels - see Religious Themes...)** - You could be any # of different creatures leaping towards a cure... Also used for Angels - Decorate your site with angel wings and clouds, have wings on your luminaria (decorate your bags to look like angels), and recognize your survivors by giving them angel's wings pins...
  - **Dogs**
    - **"Canines Cruising For A Cure"**
    - **"Doggies Cruisin' For A Cure"** - all wear bulldog masks and bring a cool car to the event that you put on display...

- **"Doggies Driving For A Cure"** - Have pictures around your site of dogs driving cars :)
- **Monkeys**
  - **Going Bananas For A Cure** - Dress as Monkeys and have lots of bananas around your campsite! Thanks to Stacey T. for this great idea!
- **Horses**
  - **"Betting On A Cure"** - A Horse racing related theme
  - **"Horsing Around For Life"** - Dress as Horses, and decorate your campsite as a Ranch. If you can, your team could also have a fundraiser at a horse farm where people could get horse rides for a donation! (thanks to Brooksie84 for for the idea)
  - **"Derbying For A Cure"** - A Kentucky Derby/horse racing related idea!
  - **"Jockeying For A Cure"**
  - **"Racing For A Cure"**
  - **"Riding For A Cure"**
  - **"Running Wild For A Cure"**
- **Make Cancer Extinct** - "We just completed our Relay in Ohio. Our theme was "Make Cancer Extinct". We had a 12 foot dinosaur at our tent. We made dinosaur cookies. The kids dressed in dinosaur costumes. The adults dressed in Caveman outfits. It was great fun...we won for best campsite." (Thanks to Traci for this great idea!)
- **Moo-ving For A Cure** - Have a cow on a banner, dress as cows, whatever fun cow related themes you can think of!!!! Then Moo-ve cancer out! (thanks to Stacy and the Vienna Relay For Life)
- **The Pink Flamingos** - A Great team theme where you decorate your site at the event with Pink Flamingos and use the Pink Flamingo fundraiser (where people pay to have the Pink Flamingo Flock removed from their yard ☺ - make sure you check that people are ok with doing it!!!) You can even get them at <http://www.thepinkflamingo.com> ! Thanks to many for the inspiration for this including Jeanne J., thepinkflamingo.com, and more!
- **Relay Angels** - Decorate your site with pictures of angels with halos, etc, and you could have wings... Dress as angels.
- **Tigers on the Prowl for a Cure** - "Our team is a bunch of our friends who are teens that go to our middle school. We collect money through bake sales at school, and other things. Last year, we had tiger fabric over our tent, and we painted faces for a dollar. Our team colors for our school are purple and white...and our mascot is a tiger. Do you have any cute ideas for our campsite? Games? Anything you think would be cute. We are planning on purchasing a few stuffed tigers to set out by our tent." - Thanks to Ash for the idea! 11/04
- **Wild Bunch** - thanks to Relay4er!
- **Where the Wild Things Are** - thanks to Relay4er!
- **Anniversary Themes** - See Anniversary Themes above in the Event Themes section also

- **10 Years Closer to the Cure** - Have your team have "cure" and "cancer related" theme... This one has a lot of flexibility! (thanks to Mary Ann Hocking)
- **10 Years of Love, Hope, Relay** - Have your team have a Love or Hope related theme.... (thanks to Mary Ann Hocking)
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- **"10 Years of Dancing for A Cure"** - You could have a "dancing theme" for your team. (From Ramesh Moorthy, Baltimore MD)
- **"Happy Birthday, Relay!"** - Thanks to 'the4blairs' for the inspiration for this theme! Dress in birthday hats, have a birthday cake, etc. and party it up!
- **"Decade in Review"** - It may be fun to do a decade type theme highlighting such years as the 50s, 70s, or 80s. You can do a "Decade in Review" highlighting the last ten years of your Relay. For cancer education, maybe you could do a "Key Developments of Cancer research within the last decade." Just some ideas. :) (thanks to HopeInLindy)
- **Art Related Themes - Also see "Musical/Dancing/Songs/Party themes":**
  - **Cure-ators** - Here's a great name if your team has people who work at a museum... Have posters of great works of art on your tents, and have a "coffee bar" that offers "premium coffee" for a donation for your team... Hold an art auction! - if you know local artists, have them donate pieces, or even better, do some custom pieces about Relay For Life (get approval of your local office if you do that!) that they donate for the auction! Or have kids do some art and auction that off... Parents are sure to buy it :)
- **Astronomy-Related Themes - see Nature Related Themes**
- **Auto Racing - see Sports - Auto Racing**
- **Australia-Related Themes**
  - **"A Cure Outback"** - Dress up in Aussie Hats and boots, decorate your campsite like the outback
- **Aviation Related Themes (Flying) + Have clouds and cut out airplanes, and "wings" to handout to people ☺**
  - **Aeroing For A Cure**
  - **Flying For A Cure** (thanks to Lori T.)
  - **Planing For A Cure**
  - **Soaring High Above the Clouds For A Cure**
  -
- **Bank Related Themes - see Money/Financial Themes below**
- **Baseball themes - see sports themes**
- **Beach Related Themes - Also see Hawaiian Themes, Boating Themes....** For any of these themes, decorate your site with Beach Umbrellas, chairs, Towels, wear sunglasses and beach attire, etc.! This theme is a great fit with cancer control education about the sun - do slip slap slop - slip on a t-shirt, slap on a hat, and slop



on some sunscreen to prevent sun damage! Hand out sunscreen etc. - thanks to many people for these ideas including Susanne, Relay4er, and others.

- **The Beach Bums** - Thanks to Relay4er for this great idea!
- **Gilligan's Island** - Thanks to Susanne: *"I did Gilligan's Island - Castaway Cancer and won best decorated tent in our relay April 2004. It was cute. I purchased a bunch of cute stuff from oriental trading company on-line including leis, Gilligan hats, coconut cups, grass skirts for tables and tent. (www.orientaltrading.com)"*... Could be a great idea! Dress as the characters (Mr. Howell, Gilligan, the Skipper, Maryann, Ginger, the Professor), have a fake boat too or even real boat there, and some palm trees!
- **Hawaii-Cure-O** - Dress your team in Hawaiian shirts (www.orientaltraders.com is a good place to get them cheap), and serve Hawaiian drinks for a donation... Wear leis, grass skirts and the whole nine yards... If your event has a Miss Relay contest where a man has to dress as a woman, get all the guys on your teams to wear grass skirts (with something under them!) and lots of leis and enter the contest!
- **"Wave goodbye to cancer"** - Have pictures of waves on poster boards, and "wave" goodbye to cancer... Dress with a beach theme.
- **Biking Themes - See Sports Themes**
- **Boating-Related Themes**
  - **All Aboard! For A Cure!** - Decorate your campsite as a boat, and welcome All Aboard for a cure... distribute boat pins you buy or make (check on line at orientaltrading.com for ideas), and all dress to match the nautical theme (hats, uniforms if possible, etc...)
  - **Boating For A Cure** - If your site will allow it, bring a boat to your site, and "Fish" off the side... You can even have people come and donate \$1 to get a Polaroid on the boat!
  - **"Bye-You To Cancer!", "Bayou For A Cure" Or "Fishing For A Cure"** - See Hunting/Fishing/Camping Themes below.
  - **CRUISING FOR A CURE** - Bring cruise ship stuff (thanks to Natchitoches, LA!)
  - **Gilligan's Island** - see TV Themes
  - **Love Boat for A Cure** - See TV Themes
  - **Pirate themes** - "Plundering For A Cure", "Make Cancer Walk The Plank", "Polly Wants A Cure", or at least make sure you work in Pirate related words (Blimey, shiver me timbers, ahoy, etc\_- Dress as pirates, and "plunder for a cure" or any of the mentioned themes... - ask people for donations or tell them you'll make them walk the plank - Walk the Plank - have people donate to have a another volunteer "Walk the Plank"... If they walk the plank, make it so that they (or someone else) can "out-donate" the original person to "save" whoever is walking the plank. Set up a fake plank with a wading pool at the end of it and a donation jar... If someone walks the plank, they have to step into the wading pool and get wet! Of course, you can't force anyone and it is all in fun, so make sure that participants take it in humor (let them take their shoes off, roll up their pants, etc.) Also -

check out Oriental Trading Company for things to buy/ideas... Here is some more great stuff: "

- *"Definitely you all need to have patches over one eye, someone needs a hook, a skull and crossbones flag...lots of pirate treasure.....a treasure chest (maybe work into a game for a fundraiser)...gosh the possibilities are endless. Don't forget a treasure map and a parrot on the shoulder!"* Thanks to MagieDCat for the great ideas!!!!!!
- **Sailing the Sea For A Cure** - Another idea with a boating theme (Thanks to Curebear88!)
- **Setting Sail For A Cure** - Similar to All Aboard For A Cure above...
- **"Breast Cancer Themes" - See cancer Themes**
- **"Cancer Themes"**
  - **"Breast Cancer Themes"**
    - **Bosom Buddies Against Breast Cancer** - Get the play on words?
    - **Breast Cancer Eradicators**
  - **"Colon Cancer Themes" - Don't have any yet!**
  - **"Lung Cancer Themes"**
    - **"Breathing Our Way to A Cure"** - see below for description
    - **"Breathe The Fresh Air"** - see below for description
    - **"Breath Deep for a Cure"** - see below for description
    - **"Butt Kickers - We Kick Ash"** - What a great pun ☺
    - **"Take a Deep Breath For A Cure"** - see below for description
    - **ALL THESE THEMES ABOVE** could use the following ideas:
      - Dress up in t-shirts that have a picture of lungs on them, and even unhealthy lungs on the back - "These are your lungs", and on the back - "These are your lungs on drugs" for an example. (Just make sure that you check with your event that your event committee won't be offended - it might seem a little graphic)
      - Have Ashtrays all over with red circles and a line thru it...
      - Have lots of literature about quitting smoking available
      - Post trivia about smoking and the benefits of quitting
      -
  - **"Skin Cancer Themes"**
    - **"Slip Slap Slop For A Cure"** - Named after the Slip Slap Slop cancer control program - Dress your team with aprons that have giveaway visor hats (SLAP), sunscreen (SLOP), brochures, etc. and have your team remind folks to SLIP into clothing that covers their exposed areas where possible to prevent sun exposure!
    - **"Putting a Shade on Cancer"** - Dress in Aprons with educational cancer control material, and get a bunch of visor hats... Place on peoples' heads and "put a shade" on them to prevent cancer
- **"Cancer Control Themes"**
  - **"Putting a Shade on Cancer"** - Dress in Aprons with educational cancer control material, and get a bunch of visor hats... Place on peoples' heads and "put a shade" on them to prevent cancer

- **Car-Related Themes - See Transportation Related Themes, Also see "Sports Themes" and "Auto Racing" under that**
- **"Caregiver/Doctor/Nurse/Scientist" Themes - See "Health Care Themes" below**
- **"Cartoon Themes:**
  - **Cartooning For A Cure - THIS WORKS FOR THE WHOLE RELAY EVENT!!!!!!** - One relay event had Cartoons as the THEME FOR THE WHOLE EVENT, and every campsite had a cartoon theme!!!! Talk about neat! One site had a Dora Theme, another had Scooby Doo, another had Bugs Bunny and Daffy Duck... You could have a Scooby Doo Theme for your campsite, or a Bugs Bunny Road Runner show theme... You could then use the themes listed under TV below... 5/04
  - **"Cartooning For A Cure" or "Toon Out Cancer"** - Have each of your team members dress as a cartoon character to form your team... Decorate your tent like a cartoon house - maybe crazy colors, or something.... Have your cartoon characters walk the track with a Polaroid camera, and "sell" pictures for a \$1 donation to the ACS - NOTE: Target parents with kids - they won't say no to their kid wanting a picture with Wiley Coyote!!!! (Thanks to several different folks for this idea, including Jaime Lavigne 5/04)
  - **"Clowning Around For A Cure"** - all dress as clowns, and face paint kids! (thanks to Jena Wilder 8-04)
  - **Disney theme** - "We blew up the Disney characters life size and hand painted them, it was lot of work but it was awesome." (thanks to mmouse for the idea)
  - **Dr. Seuss -**
    - **"the Cat In The Hat"** - Thanks to hiramt824 for this great idea- *"I am ordering the Dr. Seuss hats from orientaltrading.com. I know you can get them in different colors if needed."* What a great idea!!!!!! as well as Magiedcat for the latter two theme ideas!
    - **"The Cat In The Hat Is Working On A Cure!"**
    - **"The Cure In The Hat!"** - Have a hat with Cancer Control tips to prevent and make treating cancer more effective!
    - **"Green Eggs And Ham"** - Cook up Green Eggs and Ham as a fundraising breakfast (food coloring in the eggs!)
    - **"Horton Hatches An Egg For A Cure"** - Have someone dress as Horton, and hold an egg breakfast as a fundraiser for your team at the event... After a night of relaying, people will donate to raise money if they get a good breakfast! (thanks to R. Moorthy, Baltimore, MD)
    - **"How the Grinch Stole The Cure"** - Have a Grinch who goes around giving "bad advice" to walkers about cancer (for example, telling them to eat high fat, high cholesterol diets)... Have another team member "thwart" the grinch by following him/her and ask those walkers what the correct answer is. If the walker gets it right, give them a prize. (thanks to R. Moorthy, Baltimore, MD)

- **"Oh the places you will go"- Tarzan!** - a team did a Tarzan theme; one team member drew a huge Tarzan and a vine and the whole bit, and had the name "Wild Bunch" (thanks to mmouse for the idea!)
  - **"One Wish, Two Wish, You Wish, I Wish...for A Cure."** - Thanks to MagieDCat
  - **"The doctor is in, let the healing begin"** Thanks to MagieDcat
- **"Cheering Themes"** - see Sports, Cheerleading
- **"Christian Themes"** - see Religious Themes
- **"Circus Related Themes"** - Also see Animal Related Themes
  - **Big Top Cureseekers** - (thanks to ClayCoTx!)
  - **Big Top Bears For A Cure or Big Top Bears Don't Hibernate** - Decorate with a circus theme, a big top, etc! Sell bears to raise money if that is ok with your event/staff (thanks to ClayCoTx and Mamamo777!)
  - **Carousel Cureseekers** - (thanks to ClayCoTx!)
  - **"Clowning Around For A Cure"** - all dress as clowns, and face paint kids! (thanks to Jena Wilder 8-04)
  - **Cotton Candy For A Cure** - Rent a cotton candy machine, and serve it at Relay... Check with your event and make sure that they are ok with cotton candy, as it is not the healthiest, and to make sure you have power for the machine.
  - **Cureseeking Clowns** - (thanks to ClayCoTx!)
  - **Taming Cancer For A Cure** - Have one person dress as a lion tamer, and the others dress as "cancer lions", and each have a name plate with a type of cancer on it... Have the Lion Tamer "tame" the cancer. (R. Moorthy 3/05)
  - **Tigers on the Prowl for a Cure** - "Our team is a bunch of our friends who are teens that go to our middle school. We collect money through bake sales at school, and other things. Last year, we had tiger fabric over our tent, and we painted faces for a dollar. Our team colors for our school are purple and white...and our mascot is a tiger. Do you have any cute ideas for our campsite? Games? Anything you think would be cute. We are planning on purchasing a few stuffed tigers to set out by our tent." - Thanks to Ash for the idea! 11/04
- **"Clothing Themes"** - see Fashion-Related Themes
- **"Colon Cancer Themes"** - see Cancer themes
- **"Construction Themes"**
  - **Building Towards A Cure!** - Bring some wood and look like you "building" towards a cure... Come up with something nice that you're are building (a chair?) and let people buy raffle tickets for it... Auction it off at the end of the event (bring precut pieces you can assemble and paint, or something).
  - **Constructing A Cure!** - Make your Relay team site look like a construction site - all wear hardhats, jeans, etc. and "construct" a cure throughout the night (you might bring 2x4's and build something to to post "tributes" on, or something like that.
- **"Cooking"** - See "Food themes" below
- **"Country/Western" themes** - see Western Themes
- **"Dancing Themes"** - see Musical themes below

- **"Dress Up Themes** - See Fashion Related Themes
- **"Education Themes"** - For teachers, others in education, and those otherwise obsessed with school supplies...
  - **Eraser Heads** - You will be "rubbing out cancer"... Have pencils made out of paper tubes from inside of a carpet roll (you can get them at a furniture store). Have everyone on your team make their "hats" to resemble an eraser. Also, get a sheet of plywood and paint it black. Then paint on your writing on it - "RUBBING OUT CANCER" IN LARGE LETTERS...LIKE A BLACK BOARD. (from S. Johnson - thanks!!!!)
  - **Teaching Our Way to A Cure** - A group of teachers could bring cards with "educational facts about cancer" and hand them out to "students" - other Relay participants... Decorate your campsite like it is a classroom....
- **"Fable Themes"** - see Fairytales below
- **"Fairytale/Nursery Rhyme/ Fable Themes"** - These cover a large variety of ideas, from things like the Three Little Pigs, to doing a Mother Goose Campsite (with all the different characters and 'tent setups') to ???
  - **"Three Little Pigs - Huff and Puff & Blow Cancer Away!"** - "...Our theme is the "Three Little Pigs - Huff and Puff & Blow Cancer Away!" We will be serving BBQ plates from the Three Little Pigs BBQ (I know that is a terrible pun to the pigs) Of course we will have the Big Bad Wolf & 3 Pigs... You could decorate it as a brick house and make a cardboard chimney and so on... You could use a red checkered table cloth, straw bales around your site. You could wear aprons with the 3 little pigs on it or the big bad wolf with an "X" across him or with him huffing and puffing to blow out cancer. You could also all wear pig tails and had some kind of treasure hunt for the "three little pigs" or some type of trivia game to go with your theme. It would draw more people into your area! Play some type of music to go with theme... the following website has a lot of details on the story and pictures that might give you other ideas...

<http://www-math.uni-paderborn.de/~odenbach/pigs/pig2.html>

(thanks to zoomzoom, brendak, sh40592 for all these ideas)

- **Beauty and the Beast, or Beastmasters** - "This is something my daddy came up with the year he passed away. It is the Beauty and the Beast - The Beauty of life is beating the Beast called cancer.... we grill hamburgers all night so we are set off to the side and everyone sees us." (Thanks to 1dadsgirl for this!)... Additional ideas for this: you could 1. Dress some folks as beasts (give them signs as different forms of cancer, and have a "tamer"... You could make it a doctor/scientist type who "tames the beasts". 2. More traditional - beasts and a lion-tamer type, but that strikes us as a little more risqué... :)
- **Mother Goose Against Cancer** - Dress up as the characters from Mother Goose, and have each of your tents be a fairytale; or make your event theme Fairytales and let folks go crazy! You could have the fairytale songs on laminated sheets on stakes... Some ideas:

- **Old Mother Hubbard** - have someone dress up as her, and if dogs are allowed bring her old dog... Or have someone dress up as one!
- **Baa Baa Black Sheep** - Have someone dress as the sheep herder, and someone as a sheep... put cotton balls all over the sheep and "shear" it...
- **Do You Know the Muffin Man** - Have someone dress as the muffin man, and sell muffins as a fundraiser!!!!
- **Hot Cross Buns** - Have a hot cross buns fundraising tent... sell Hot Cross Buns!!!
- **Humpty Dumpty** - A wall, a team member dressed as Humpty... You get the picture
- **Jack Be Nimble** - Have someone dress up as Jack and 'jump over the candlestick'...
- **Ladybug! Ladybug!** - Dress as Ladybugs...
- **Little Bo Peep** - One team member dressed as Little Bo Peep... Several others as sheep... You get the idea
- **Little Boy Blue**
- **Little Miss Muffet - (and the spider)**
- **Mary Had a Little Lamb...**
- **Old King Cole**
- **Peter Piper Picked a Peck of Pickled Peppers**
- **Row Row Row Your Boat**
- **There was an old woman who lived in a shoe...** - You could have a lot of fun with this one - One tent disguised as a shoe... lots of children...
- **Three Blind Mice**
- **Tweedledum and Tweedledee**
- **Yankee Doodle**
- **Cinderella**
- **Snow White and the Seven Dwarves**
- **STAR LIGHT, STAR BRIGHT, WISH I HAD A CURE TONIGHT** - use stars, moon, clouds, etc. to decorate your site (thanks to Natchitoches, LA!)
- **When You Wish Upon A Star** - Dress as stars, and walk around the track and give people cancer wishes (wishes to eliminate cancer, to help someone fighting it...) Write them on pieces of paper shaped as stars, and post them on a board.
- **Family Related Themes - see Friends/Family Related Themes.**
- **Fantasy & Science Fiction Related Themes - This includes Medieval Themes (like King Arthur and knights), science fiction ideas, etc. Also see Movie Themes and TV Themes. For Fairytales & Fables see Fairytale Themes**
  - **All Knights** - follow a theme similar to Knights of the Round Table
  - **Knights of The Round Table (for a Cure)** - Dress as Knights... Bring a round table ☺ Go to a party supply/costume store and get the outfits. Simple as that. Bring some brooms and turn them into horses (paste on eyes and a mouth if you are ambitious...) For an activity try the following:

- "Have people buy shields that say "In memory of (name)" and have a "moat" around our tents (the 'Castle of Hope')... When people buy them they can put them in the moat which [symbolizes] cancer. Have people [donate] a dollar to go all the way around the moat [while] stepping on the shields... [they cannot step on] the mote. If they successfully get around they get a prize." - thanks to Becky
    - add a cancer control theme by having the "Knights of the Round Table Slay Cancer!"... Have your knights go around and distribute cancer control info for the event (get the committee's support)... ask people questions about cancer, and if they answer right, make a big deal of how they, too are invited to be a Knight of the Round Table, give them a ceremonial badge, or hat, or shield... In that way, make the "Knights of the Round Table grow! (thanks to Ramesh M. Baltimore MD)
  - **"A Quest For A Cure - a Realm of Hope"** - You could position it as 'Our destiny is a fairytale ending - a cure for cancer!' Once upon a time... You could make shields out of cardboard to hang in your camp Combine with the above ideas too.
  - **Spacemen Zapping Out Cancer** - Dress as aliens, carry laser guns (thanks to Georgia Tech Relay)
  - **Star Wars** - see **Movie Themes**
- **"Fashion Related Themes** - There are dress up themes everywhere, but the ones here - we didn't know where else to put them ☺
  - **"Declare Cancer Out of Style!"** - Dress up in 70's and 80's clothes, and then commandeer the podium at some point (make sure the event knows and is ok with it!) and rip off your unfashionable duds and have something great below (preferably Relay-Related clothing) (thanks to Stacy and Vienna Relay For Life)
  - **"Clowning Around For A Cure"** - all dress as clowns, and face paint kids! (thanks to Jena Wilder 8-04)
  - **"Declare Cancer Out of STYLE!"** - thanks to Vienna VA Relay For Life and Stacy Capra...
  - **"Styling It For A Cure"** - Have your team hold a Relay Fashion show at midnight where the winner is picked by getting the most donations! Have your team dress up in their finest Relay related gear and purple clothing and all enter the show!
  - **"Top of the Town"** - "Delegate Ken Plum's 'Top of the Town' team was the highest fundraiser of any community team, raising \$16,500 at the Reston Relay. One of the more creative team themes, Top of the Town boasted tuxedos and grilled salmon and other tasty treats at their tent campsite." See <http://www.kenplum.com/relife03.html>
- **"Fire Departments/Brigades/Volunteer Fire Depts. etc. Themes":**
  - **Bucket Brigade!** - "We are a volunteer fire dept and we've participate in the relay for life for years but this year I would like to change our team name. (Thanks to Kelly and "A Brand New U" for the creative brainstorm for this idea!)

- **Fire Hose for A Cure** - Bring a hose (and even water if you can), squirt guns, etc. and "Wash away cancer"
- **"Fishing Related Themes"** - see "Hunting/Fishing/Camping Themes" below
- **"Flying Related Themes"** - see Aviation related themes
- **"Food/Cooking Related Team Themes":**
  - **"A Cure Would Be Sweet"** - Bake a lot of sweet items and sell them as fundraisers (thanks to Kenston County High School, OH)
  - **Baking for A Cure**
  - **CHOMPIN' FOR A CURE** - Have a lot of different food that you sell as fundraisers...
  - **Cooking up a Cure** - Have a cooking theme - wear chef's hats, etc. And make food to provide for a donation! (Thanks to curebear88!)
  - **Cooking For A Cure** - Make some dishes and sell for a donation, if your event allows
  - **Food Fighters** - bring healthy food choices to relay and "Fight" cancer that way.
  - **FREEZE OUT CANCER** - Have a ice cream parlor, sell homemade ice cream (Thanks to Natchitoches, LA)
- **Friendship/Family Related Themes** - Also see TV related Themes (for the TV show Friends)
  - **All For One, and One For All**
  - **Family For A Cure**
  - **Family Tree** - thanks to Relay4er!
  - **Friends For A Cure** - You could play off the TV show Friends, each be a character, and decorate your campsite with a couch (like theirs), etc... Then walk around the track with prizes if others answer a cancer control trivia question AND a Friends trivia question correctly (What character did Monica fall in love with and completely freak her parents out? Tom Selleck, who played her father's divorced friend who was his age and old enough to be Monica's parent, etc.).
  - **Friends and Family For A Cure**
  - **Friends For Life** - Focus on your friendships - decorate your site with pictures of you and your friends, particularly ones of you together... Bring a Polaroid camera and take more... Make other 'friends' at the event... take their polaroids, and put them up on your campsite with their name written on the Polaroid, and an interesting fact about them... this will encourage Relay teams to mingle... have a prize for the team that 'makes friends with your team' the most!
  - **Love, Hope, Relay** - This is a theme that ACS has used for many years - beautiful, especially if your staff can find you the shirts that say that ☺
  - **"Mom's Making Cancer Disappear"** - We will be hosting a Magic Show and our magician may be able to attend our opening ceremonies at Relay! (Thanks to RelayForMom 1/05)
  - **Together For A Cure**
  - **TOGETHER WE'RE THE BEST!** (thanks to Geddy!)
  - **Uniting For A Cure**



- **“Game Related Themes” - for Sports related themes (baseball football bowling etc.) see Sports**
  - **Bingo - Calling for a Cure!** - ...We run a bingo hall and our team name was "Calling For a Cure" but we would like something different. (Thanks to Kelly for this idea)
  - **Candy Land For A Cure** - Have a candy theme! Play Candy Land!
  - **A Monopoly on Curing Cancer!** - Rolling the Dice For A cure - Set up a game of Monopoly, and have folks win prizes (get sunscreen, hats, etc. donated as prizes) for where people land when they roll...)
  - **"Mom's Making Cancer Disappear"** - We will be hosting a Magic Show and our magician may be able to attend our opening ceremonies at Relay! (Thanks to RelayForMom 1/05)
- **“Halloween Themes”**
  - **Scaring Away Cancer** - Dress as ghosts and “boo” away cancer! (thanks to Jena Wilder 10/04)
- **Happy Themes -**
  - **Smiley Faces For A Cure**
  - **Team Smiley (thanks to Relay4er)**
- **“Hawaiian Themes” - all these ideas fit the same basic decorations: Dress your team in Hawaiian shirts ([www.orientaltraders.com](http://www.orientaltraders.com) is a good place to get them cheap), and serve Hawaiian drinks for a donation... Wear leis, grass skirts and the whole nine yards... If your event has a Miss Relay contest where a man has to dress as a woman, get all the guys on your teams to wear grass skirts (with something under them!) and lots of leis and enter the contest!:**
  - **ALOHA, LIFE! (thanks to Geddy!)** - You could use the Hula Theme (see above)
  - **Finding The "Volcanic" Cure** - Thanks to JoyceB75!
  - **Hula Honey's** - Thanks to JoyceB75!
  - **Hula For A Cure - See Musical** - Thanks to JoyceB75!
  - **Hawaii-Cure-O** -
  - **Re-Lei for Life** - Thanks to JoyceB75!
  - **Re-Lei for a Cure** - Thanks to JoyceB75!
- **“Health Care/Medical/Doctor/Nurse Themes”**
  - **ALL TOGETHER FOR LIFE (thanks to Geddy!)**
  - **Calling Out the Cancer 911** - Dress like an emergency team and “respond” to cancer risk factors - eating unhealthy, not wearing sunscreen, etc.
  - **Cancer Cause Connectors** - Similar to “Calling Out Cancer 911” - “Connect” the causes of cancer to risk factors - eating unhealthy, not wearing sunscreen, etc.
  - **Caregivers for A Cure** - Could be a name for a group of health care providers...
  - **Cure Connectors** - “Connect” the dots for people by sharing stories about some of the innovations in cancer - Tamoxifen, etc. - make signs to post around your events track and say “brought to you by the 'Cure Connectors' team”... Get your event's approval!
  - **Healthy Steps To A Cure**

- **Rainbow Rescuers (thanks to askeeler)**
- **Research For A Cure** - Dress up like scientists searching for a cure
- **Working For A Cure** - Docs, Nurses etc. can come in their uniforms, and hand out "cards" with tips for preventing cancer
- **"Holiday Themes" - Christmas, Anniversaries, Birthdays...**
  - **All I want for Christmas is a Cure** - X-Mas decorations, wear Santa hats and elf outfits, etc. (Thanks to curebear88!)
  - **Happy Birthday Relay!** - Hold a Birthday Party at Relay and decorate your site as such... Include birthday hats, a cake, ribbons, etc.! Thanks to the4blairs for the inspiration!
  - **Have a Relay Happy Birthday!** - - Hold a Birthday Party at Relay and decorate your site as such... Include birthday hats, a cake, ribbons, etc! Thanks to the4blairs for the inspiration!
  - **Stars and Stripes for A Cure /July 4th** - see patriotic themes
  - **We're Thanksgiving For A Cure** - Have one team responsible for the survivor dinner, and host a "Thanksgiving Survivor Dinner" where everyone gives thanks for those that are battling cancer and alive! (thanks to R Moorthy)
- **"Homemaker/Fabric/Knitting/Stitching Themes"** - We weren't sure where to put these... Hopefully this makes sense ☺
  - **STITCHING UP A CURE** - Bring huge needles and thread, sewing machines, etc. to decorate your site...
  - **Knitting Up A Cure** - Bring rocking chairs, and have your team members sit and knit... even better yet, have them make Relay scarves, hats, etc. and sell them as fundraisers!
- **"Hunting/Fishing/Camping Themes"** - see also Western Themes below...
  - **Boating For A Cure** - If your site will allow it, bring a boat to your site, and "Fish" off the side... You can even have people come and donate \$1 to get a Polaroid on the boat!
  - **"Bye-You To Cancer!", "Bayou For A Cure" Or "Fishing For A Cure"** - Use a swamp theme and decorate in fishing stuff. You could also have moss and some old cypress wood (5/18/04 - Thanks to jaimelavigne for this great idea!)
  - **Hunting for A Cure** - Make your campsite look like an African Safari Hunt, everybody dresses up in camouflage, etc. etc. Or dress in Western Wear, and make like you are part of the Wild Wild West... Or dress as explorers in the Jungle and have one person dress as Tarzan and another as Jane... ☺
  - **SWAT - Students With A Target - Cancer!** - Not sure how this team decorated/etc. but you could have big bullseye targets, bring a game of darts (with safe darts - say the kid safe ones you're your Relay), bring a sack toss game where people toss the little sack onto a bullseye to win prizes (sunscreen, etc.). You could do a lot with this idea! (thanks to Kandy for finding this idea! If you team did this and you'd like to share the specifics of how you decorated/made it come to life, please email [Ramesh@acsrelay.org](mailto:Ramesh@acsrelay.org))
- **"Jungle Themes"** - see Animal Themes or Nature themes

- **Las Vegas Related themes - Decorate your campsite like a campy Las Vegas hotel - search the web for inspirations!**
  - **Las Vegas Lights** - "this year's relay theme is Las Vegas and our team name is "Las Vegas Lights" and each team is asked to set up a Vegas style game by their campsite" (thanks to Lovelisa02!)
  - **Roll the Dice!**
  - **Vegas Lights**
- **"Law Enforcement/Police Etc. Themes"... See also Military themes**
  - **Lock Away Cancer for Life!** - Setup a fake jail, and even have people arrested and put in it for a donation, then give people the opportunity to bail them out by donating \$20 in total (if they don't bail them out, you might want to let them go in a hour ☺ )
  - **The Cancer Cops or The Prevention Police** - Dress in your uniforms, and "arrest" cancer everywhere you go - have little laminated "handcuffs", and go around the track asking people if they are wearing sunscreen (during the day) and "handcuff" them if they are not, "handcuff" them if they are not wearing hats, etc.
  - **SWAT - Students With A Target - Cancer!** - Not sure how this team decorated/etc. but you could have big bullseye targets, bring a game of darts (with safe darts - say the kid safe ones you're your Relay), bring a sack toss game where people toss the little sack onto a bullseye to win prizes (sunscreen, etc.). You could do a lot with this idea! (thanks to Kandy for finding this idea! If you team did this and you'd like to share the specifics of how you decorated/made it come to life, please email [Ramesh@acsrelay.org](mailto:Ramesh@acsrelay.org))
  - **Waging A War On Cancer**
- **Legal Themes** - These would fit for a Law Firm and other legal stuff. See also **Law enforcement**.... Basically, you can do the same kind of stuff for each of these ideas: Western Themes work well, you can have "Wanted: Cancer" posters (just like the old Western Wanted posters) all over your campsite, and have a Mock Jail (a tent with bars on it) and "catch cancer" and throw it in jail! Also make sure that you match some clever fundraisers with it - for example, have a Jail and Bail and sell "Get Out of Jail" Cards for a \$5 donation. Let people "donate" to put people in Jail...
  - **Cancer Is Against The Law!**
  - **Cure Cancer Legally ☺** -
  - **Founding Fathers For A Cure** -
  - **Lawyers Against Cancer**
  - **Legal Eagles For a Cure** - Dress as Lawyers and walk the track!!!
  - **Outlaw Cancer!**
  - **There's A Law Against Cancer!!!**
- **"Life Themes":**
  - **ALL TOGETHER FOR LIFE** (thanks to Geddy!)
  - **ALOHA, LIFE!** (thanks to Geddy!) - You could use the Hula Theme (see above)
  - **"Focus on Life"** - Get people to donate to your team for buying enough luminaria to spell out Life somewhere on the field (make sure you get the

event committee's approval to do this). Then make your campsite all about Life... Have Life cereal that people can eat for a donation, bring the board game Life that people can play in for a \$1 donation to your Relay Team, Have Lifesavers rolls (that people can get for a donation), Relay For Life banners, have life preservers... etc. etc.... What other 'Life' related products can you think of??? Celebrate those who you know who have beat cancer - put a banner up on a side of a tent that says "Beat Cancer and Found Life" and put pictures up of all of them.

- **Friends For Life** - Focus on your friendships - decorate your site with pictures of you and your friends, particularly ones of you together... Bring a Polaroid camera and take more... Make other 'friends' at the event... take their polaroids, and put them up on your campsite with their name written on the Polaroid, and an interesting fact about them... this will encourage Relay teams to mingle... have a prize for the team that 'makes friends with your team' the most!
- **"Mom's Cutting Out Cancer"** - We sold ribbon cookies and cookie cutters with our baking theme. We also held our first golf outing which totaled over \$1500 (thanks to RelayForMom)
- **Rays of Hope** - "We decorated our entire camp site with rainbows individually made with people's names. It was a big hit" (thanks to mmouse for the idea)
- **TOGETHER WE'RE THE BEST!** (thanks to Geddy!)
- **"Louisiana Themes"** - see **"Mardi Gras/Louisiana Themes"** below:
- **"Lung Cancer Themes"** - see **Cancer themes**
- **"Magic Related Themes"** - see **Game related themes**
- **"Mardi Gras/Louisiana Themes"**:
  - **Beading for A Cure** - Wear beads, etc. and dance around your Relay - bring some good dancing music to go with your Mardi-Gras Theme
  - **"Bye-You To Cancer!", "Bayou For A Cure" Or "Fishing For A Cure"** - Use a swamp theme and decorate in fishing stuff. You could also have moss and some old cypress wood... Ok it is not quite Mardi Gras but is related to Louisiana??? (5/18/04 - Thanks to jaime lavigne for this great idea!)
  - **CHOMPIN' FOR A CURE** - Have alligators, swamps, etc.
  - **Marga-Relay-Ville** - add beads to the Marga-Relay-Ville theme (Hawaiian shirts, leis, etc.) and you're close enough...
  - **Mardi-Gras Revelers Dancing in the Streets for a Cure** -Thanks to Bloomer9!
  - **Mardi-Gras Girls** - Thanks to Bloomer9!
  - **Mardi-Gras For A Cure** - Have a little Mardi Gras right at Relay - dress in elaborate costumes (the traditional Mardi Gras colors fit Relay - purple!, green and gold), decorate your tent like it is a float in a Mardi Gras parade, get some good music, a lots of beads, and dance around the track and "bead" other teams!
  - **Ragin' Cajuns For A Cure** - Thanks to MagieDCat!
- **Medieval Related Themes** - See Fantasy
- **Military Themes** - see also **Law Enforcement, Patriotic**

- **Waging A War On Cancer**
- **SWAT - Students With A Target - Cancer!** - Not sure how this team decorated/etc. but you could have big bullseye targets, bring a game of darts (with safe darts - say the kid safe ones you're your Relay), bring a sack toss game where people toss the little sack onto a bullseye to win prizes (sunscreen, etc.). You could do a lot with this idea! (thanks to Kandy for finding this idea! If you team did this and you'd like to share the specifics of how you decorated/made it come to life, please email [Ramesh@acsrelay.org](mailto:Ramesh@acsrelay.org))
- **USO** - Dress as USO members, and "entertain" Relay! Thanks to Susan!
- **"Money/Financial Institutions/Banking Themes":**
  - **BANKING ON A CURE** - Have a bunch of Piggy banks... Have people make deposits as donations... Dress as piggy banks or bankers. (12/04 - Thanks to Natchitoches, LA)
  - **Cashing in for a Cure** - A great name for a bank or financial institution! (thanks Steph!)
  - **Quarters For A Cure** - Hold a fundraiser in your office where you deposit "quarters" in jars in each other's departments... The team with the fewest quarters wins... (in other words, this encourages you to get rid of quarters in other departments' jars... Then, at the event, put out jars for every member of your team - while they are walking, put a quarters in their jar. The team member who has the most quarters has to buy everyone breakfast the next morning after the event (with the proceeds of his/her jar, so be generous!)
  - **Cure Cash Cows, or Cash Cows for A Cure** - Dress someone up as a cow as a team mascot, and the rest of the team can be cow-pokes (dress western style)
  - **Dollars Make Sense for a Cure** - Thanks to peg6897! - Setup the side of a tent where people can come around to your site and put a \$1 bill in to get a Relay Dangler... Basically you start with a tent-side worth of danglers, and end up with \$1 bills in place of each Dangler. Dress in green outfits and get some \$\$ pins from a local store or on-line. Decorate your site with fake money (maybe \$1 million dollar bills ☺ ) and green streamers.
  - **Old Tyme Tellers** - You could dress up in traditional outfits... "In the past we have done Old tyme Tellers since one of our tellers passed away from cancer"... Thanks to Kris C. from Illinois!
- **"Motorcycle Related Themes" - See Transportation Related Themes/Motorcycles**
- **"Movie Theme":**
  - **Movies for A Cure** - show movies all night at/near your campsite and have popcorn and sodas with it...
  - **Beauty and the Beast, or Beastmasters** - "This is something my daddy came up with the year he passed away. It is the Beauty and the Beast - The Beauty of life is beating the Beast called cancer.... we grill hamburgers all night so we are set off to the side and everyone sees us." (Thanks to 1dadsgirl for this!)... Additional ideas for this: you could 1. Dress some folks as beasts (give them signs as different forms of cancer, and have a "tamer"... You could make it a doctor/scientist type who "tames the beasts".

2. More traditional - beasts and a lion-tamer type, but that strikes us as a little more risqué... :)
- **"Cartooning For A Cure" or "Toon Out Cancer"** - Have each of your team members dress as a cartoon character to form your team... Decorate your tent like a cartoon house - maybe crazy colors, or something.... Have your cartoon characters walk the track with a Polaroid camera, and "sell" pictures for a \$1 donation to the ACS - NOTE: Target parents with kids - they won't say no to their kid wanting a picture with Wiley Coyote!!!! (Thanks to several different folks for this idea, including Jaime Lavigne)
  - **Disney theme** - "We blew up the Disney characters life size and hand painted them, it was a lot of work but it was awesome." You could call it Mousketeers for A Cure (thanks to mmouse for the idea)
  - **"Let's Make Cancer, Gone With the Wind"**. - Dress up in Gone With the Wind period costumes... A great idea from Lorri!
  - **Potter's Magical Cure** - Dress up like Harry Potter characters, set up your tent and put fake cardboard turrets (like a castle) around it, have brooms to "fly on" when you walk on the track, etc. etc.
  - **Sending Cancer To Infinity And Beyond** - Use this Toy Story theme and dress up as the characters (thanks to erpam)
  - **Star Wars For A Cure** - Dress as Star Wars characters and 'eradicate the Evil Empire' - Have a Death Star piñata (get a round ball piñata and make it look like the Death Star) and let people take a swing at it for a donation. Give a prize to whoever who breaks it, and fill it with great cancer control stuff your team distributes once it is broken open! Have Darth Vader Walk around the track and say... "Luke... I am your.... Cancer control specialist... Take some sunscreen" ☺ Thanks to Ramesh from Baltimore for this idea.
  - **Tarzan!** - a team did a Tarzan theme; one team member drew a huge Tarzan and a vine and the whole bit, and had the name "Wild Bunch" (thanks to mmouse for the idea!)
  - **The Wizard of Oz!** - "hi, I'm a 15 year old girl from a high school in New York. I was the team captain for the Relay for Life held at a local high school. Our theme was the Wizard of Oz. We had everything from the yellow-brick road, to the witch's legs out from underneath our tents. Our hard work paid off because we received the award for "Most Creative Team Theme". Hope our suggestion helped!" - Thanks to Krys23 for this suggestion!
  - **Win An Oscar for A Cure** - Dress up like you are movie stars and at the Oscars, and make your "baton" for the person walking something that looks like an Oscar Statue/Trophy. Put out a red carpet to your tent. As you walk around the track, have little pins or trophies to give others if they can answer a cancer control question right.
  - **"Musical/Dancing/Songs/Party themes":**
    - **Butterflies, Beaches, & Buffett (as in Jimmy Buffett) Cancer Take Flight On Butterfly Wings Tonight.** - Thanks to Kerri M and the Greater Auglaize Relay For Life! - <http://www.auglaizerelay.com/> "We are having a live butterfly release at opening & closing (weather permitting). I am sending

you a sample of our tickets. I bought butterfly pins off a couple of ebay stores so that the person gets a pin to wear & keep & if they come to Relay they receive a live butterfly to "release cancer" "in honor of" "in memory of" or just for fun. We are planning on having Jimmy Buffett music, butterfly bracelets, sand for the kids to play in, coconut bra contest, plus anything that anyone can think of! We had a committee member who's son had a luau wedding reception, she got all the decorations from that for us to use. We will sell lei's also. Our survivor dinner will be a luau (held in March or April) to hopefully excite our survivors about Relay. Feel free to use any of our ideas for your web site. My husband, best friend & I came up with the theme. See

[http://www.acsrelay.org/Darn\\_Good\\_Ideas/14-Relay\\_Poems.doc](http://www.acsrelay.org/Darn_Good_Ideas/14-Relay_Poems.doc)

event!  
For a great Relay Poem called "Butterfly Indian Legend" you can read at the

- **Dancing For A Cure** - Have a team, get someone who is a good dancer to give dance lessons "at large" a couple of times - late in the evening, early in the morning, and get all the other teams to come and participate. Also, you could dance around the track!
- **Disco For A Cure** - Dress up in bell bottom and plaid shirts, big hair wigs, and play and good Disco music (Raid your parent's record collection, go to a thrift shop and buy a record player - yes, one of those old things that plays those big black round things!) ☺
- **Groovin' For A Cure** - Dress up in crazy 60's clothes from a thrift shop, decorate your campsite with tie-die t-shirts, and play some good 60's music.
- **Hoedown For Hope** - thanks to Rachel G.! - See "Western Themes" for decoration ideas..
- **Hula For A Cure** - dress in Hawaiian costume, bring lei's and give them out for a donation, Hula dance for a cure around the track! You can also hold a Hula Hoop contest at midnight, and have a prize for the winner!
- **"Let's Sock It To Cancer"** - "We're working on an oldies/sock hop theme for our Relay event this year..., and I'm looking for some fun games, contests, etc that would tie in with our theme to help keep participants active throughout the event. Ours runs Friday night into Saturday morning. We have a great 50s/60s band for the late evening entertainment, and we have a DJ that covers the early morning hours..." - thanks to Skijowski!
- **Marga-Relay-Ville** - Jimmy Buffet fans can dress up in a Marga-Relay theme - leis, Hawaiian shirts, etc. etc.! This is also good for a "beach theme"!
- **Masquerading for A Cure!** - Dress up in costumes and masks, and participate in Relay!
- **Salsa for A Cure** - Dress up, bring some Latin music and salsa & merengue around the track for a cure with your partner! Go and get other people off their campsites to join you and dance around the track with them. Offer

for your team to hold a dance competition (and find a teacher to come give lessons) after the opening ceremony.

- **Sockhop For A Cure, or Rockin' All Night Long For A Cure, or ????** - Use a 50's theme, setup a pink bar and stools, and sell root beer floats! (5/18/04 - Thanks to jaime lavigne for this great idea!)
- **"Staying Alive!"** - You all dress up like John Travolta and Olivia Newton-John, and Stay Alive! (you can use the ideas from the disco theme right above, too.)
- **"Swinging For A Cure"** - Dress up in Zoot Suits and dresses and swing down the track for a cure with your partner! Go and get other people off their campsites to join you and swing around the track with them. Offer for your team to hold a dance competition after the opening ceremony to give people swing lessons.
- **"Unforgettable!"** - Just like the Nat King Cole song - unforgettable Play the song, and have pictures up of survivors that your team knows, and people who have lost the fight - and how they are unforgettable!
- **"Nature Related Themes" - this could include everything from gardening to astronomy to ??? See also hunting related themes above:**
  - **Dream Makers** - Decorate your campsite with an overhead tent that covers your site... decorates the tent "ceiling" with glow in the dark stars and make your tents into "clouds" by putting "cut out" clouds on the sides of your tent. Have your team dress in pajamas... Decorate a bulletin board with photos of the people your team is honoring, with star shaped post-its all around it. Then imagine a cure in the clouds! (Thanks to ClayCoTx and Magiedcat for these ideas!)
  - **Finding The "Volcanic" Cure** - Dress your team in Hawaiian shirts ([www.orientaltraders.com](http://www.orientaltraders.com) is a good place to get them cheap), and serve Hawaiian drinks for a donation... Wear leis, grass skirts and the whole nine yards... If your event has a Miss Relay contest where a man has to dress as a woman, get all the guys on your teams to wear grass skirts (with something under them!) and lots of leis and enter the contest!. Thanks to JoyceB75!
  - **Rainbows For A Cure or Rainbow Relayers or The Relay Rainbow** - Have Rainbows all over your site and "pots of gold" (chocolate coins)! Dress in tie dye t-shirts, tie dye bandanas, and have lots of baked goods with rainbow colored sparkles etc that are available for a donation!
  - **Team Dreamcatcher** - decorate your campsite with dreamcatchers and "grant" people dreams by writing them on sheets of paper shaped as clouds and posting them on a board... See if they will make donations for their wish...
  - **STAR LIGHT, STAR BRIGHT, WISH I HAD A CURE TONIGHT** - use stars, moon, clouds, etc. to decorate your site (thanks to Natchitoches, LA!)
  - **Swinging Thru the Jungle For A Cure** - Have your whole team dress like Tarzan and Jane (not too skimpy, though! ☺ ) and hang vines all over your site... Go to [orientaltrading.com](http://orientaltrading.com) and get lots of jungle themed stuff, too!
  - **Weeding Out Cancer** - "We got Lowe's to donate small terra cotta pots, flowers, and soil, and me and my mom painted the flower pots and planted



the flowers and sold them at the relay, but you could also sell them before"  
(Submitted by Jaime Lavigne 5/04)

- **When You Wish Upon A Star** - Dress as stars, and walk around the track and give people cancer wishes (wishes to eliminate cancer, to help someone fighting it...) Write them on pieces of paper shaped as stars, and post them on a board.
- **Nursery Rhymes** - see Fairy Tales above
- **OTHER THEMES** - Not sure where to put these... ☺
  - **"Porcelain Goddesses "Flushing Out Cancer All Over Town"** - For a price we would place, or remove, the Purple Potty in a yard or business. It can be a big money maker, but be sure to have plenty of help, that Purple Potty is heavy!" - (thanks to RelayForMom!)
- **Party Themes** - Themes that relate to throwing a big party etc... See also musical themes
  - **Masquerading for A Cure!** - Dress up in costumes and masks, and participate in Relay!
  - **"Clowning Around For A Cure"** - all dress as clowns, and face paint kids! (thanks to Jena Wilder 8-04)
  -
- **Patriotic Themes... See also Military Themes**
  - **A Cure On The Fourth of July!** - Use Uncle Sam for your theme - Have Uncle Sam Posters that Say "WE (or your team name) WANT YOU (to Find A Cure For Cancer!)" (thanks to Sarah and erpam)
  - **America For A Cure** - Have a picture of the 50 states and have people at the Relay come put a Flag Pin (you can get them in bulk at Oriental Trading Corp - search on line) in the state they were born in. For each person that picks a new state, give them a small prize! (thanks to R. Moorthy Baltimore MD)
  - **Firecrackers For A Cure or Sparklers For A Cure!** (thanks to erpam)
  - **Old Glory For A Cure**
  - **Relay Revelers!** - Get streamers, horns, etc. and Revel at Relay! You can all dress in red, white and blue!
  - **Red, White and Blue For A Cure!** - Similar to Relay Revelers!
  - **Stars and Stripes For A Cure!** - Dress in Stars and Stripes, Patriotic hats, T-shirts, etc. Have someone dress as Uncle Sam and go around and say "We want you... To FIND A CURE!", Have someone else be Betsy Ross, weaving a flag quilt... Have an Escalating Silent Auction for the Quilt, that ends at 7am the next day! Sell flag pins, buttons, streamers, Red White and Blue Hats, your team shirts that say "Stars and Stripes For A Cure", etc.
  - **USA For A Cure**
  - **Waging A War On Cancer**
  - **"WE WANT YOU To Find A Cure!"** - Use the Uncle Sam theme described above for "A Cure On The Fourth Of July!"
- **Pharmacies** - A pharmacy is a great organization that makes a huge difference in the lives of those who are sick... Wear your lab coats, bring "prescription"

containers with Cancer Control tips in them - hand out these prescriptions for a cure!

- **Filling the Need for A Cure**
- **Filling the Prescription For A Cure**
- **Prescribing a Cure**
- **"Phone Company/Telecommunications Team Theme": - also see Work Themes below**
  - **"Callin' for a Cure"** - A great idea from Steph, again!
  - **Calling Up For A Cure**
  - **Connecting For A Cure**
  - **1-800-For-A-Cure**
  - **Cure Call**
  - **Cure-Tain Call**
- **Pirate themes - see Boating themes!**
- **"Rainbow themes"**
  - **Rays of Hope** - "We decorated our entire camp site with rainbows individually made with people's names. It was a big hit" (thanks to mmouse for the idea)
- **"Religious Themes"**
  - **Angels Among Us** (thanks to Henderson County Relay For Life)
  - **Angels in The Outfield** - "We have a church group who uses Angels in the Outfield for their theme. They decorate their campsite like a baseball field with names and/or cancer facts at each of the bases on signs shaped like angels" (Thanks to LoriAyn)
  - **Angels Relay** (thanks to ClayCoTx)
  - **Amazing Grace** (Thanks to ClayCoTx)
  - **Angels without Wings Leaping towards a Cure** - Dress as angels leaping towards a cure... Decorate your site with angel wings and clouds, have wings on your luminaria (decorate your bags to look like angels), and recognize your survivors by giving them angel's wings pins...
  - **Believers Seeking a Divine Cure** (thanks to ClayCoTx)
  - **Relay Angels** - Decorate your site with pictures of angels with halos, etc, and you could have wings... Dress as angels.
  - **Walkers In Faith Pray For a Cure**
- **"Running theme" (see "Walking Theme" for walking ideas)**
  - **Running For A Cure** - A team in Western Maryland runs each year with the goal of completing as many laps as possible for a cure... They use the "running" as a motivational tool for fundraising more money!
  - **Running for a Cure** (Thanks Stephanie!)
  - **Trekking for a Cure** (Thanks Stephanie!) - For this idea, you could dress up your tent like you are an expedition hiking Mt. Everest!!!!
  - **Racing for a Cure** (Thanks Stephanie!)
  - **Cross Country Cancer Crushers** (Thanks Stephanie!)
  - **Cross Country Cure** (Thanks Stephanie!)
- **"Sailing Themes" - see Boating Above**
- **"Sales/People who are in Sales Themes":**

- **Selling for a Cure** - Dress like "stereotyped" car salespeople in green blazers and plaid pants, and fake mustaches. Then go from campsite to campsite, selling something (baked good, Relay For Life pin, special Relay For Life t-shirt, etc.). This is not meant to offend sales people ☺
- **Cold Calls For A Cure** - Since you are in sales, go around to other teams and "Cold Call" them for donations - sell them something (a pin, a baked good, etc.)
- **Prospecting for A Cure** - "Prospect for Gold" (donations) by going from campsite to campsite while dressed like California Gold Rush Gold Diggers.
- **E-LEMON-ATE CANCER!** - "I just found an idea on another website that my team is going to use: E-LEMON-ATE CANCER and have a lemonade stand. I think we'll probably "sell" the lemonade for donations and give the money we made to the relay at the end of the night. Just an idea... hope you like it." (From Nenniebanini - thanks for the great idea!)
- **School Themes (For Middle and High Schools, College teams, etc.):**
  - **Relay Revelers!** - Get streamers, horns, etc. and Revel at Relay! You can all dress in your school colors, bring your school mascot, etc!
  - **SWAT - Students With A Target - Cancer!** - See at the beginning of this list (the idea is described there)
  - **Friends Walking For A Cure** - See above for the description
  - **Schoolhouse Rock** - ABC Saturday Morning Shorts Theme - Remember "I'm Just A Bill, I am Only A Bill?" or Mother Necessity? Or The Great Melting Pot - See above for idea description
  - **SWAT - Students With A Target - Cancer!** - Not sure how this team decorated/etc. but you could have big bullseye targets, bring a game of darts (with safe darts - say the kid safe ones you're your Relay), bring a sack toss game where people toss the little sack onto a bullseye to win prizes (sunscreen, etc.). You could do a lot with this idea! (thanks to Kandy for finding this idea! If you team did this and you'd like to share the specifics of how you decorated/made it come to life, please email Ramesh@acsrelay.org)
- **Science Fiction Themes** - see Fantasy and Science Fiction Themes
- **Ship Themes** - see Boating Above
- **"Skin Cancer Themes"** - see Cancer themes
- **Song Themes** - See Music
- **Sports Themes (also see Running, Walking,**
  - **Auto Racing** - You can have themes built around NASCAR, Formula One, Champ Car, or Indy Racing League, whatever your passion!!! Have "race cars" that go around the track to "Drive" cancer Awareness... Have your team members drive these cars and give out cancer control tips. Dress in pit crew or race driver outfits, have pictures of cars, and auto racing flags.... Hold a "Road to Recovery Rally" as your race! For more on how to do a Road to Recovery Rally, see:

[http://www.acsrelay.org/Darn\\_Good\\_Ideas/17-Cancer\\_Control\\_Road\\_To\\_Recovery\\_Rally.doc](http://www.acsrelay.org/Darn_Good_Ideas/17-Cancer_Control_Road_To_Recovery_Rally.doc)

The catchy themes below would all work with the following ideas:

- **Driving For A Cure**
- **Leave Cancer in the Dust** - *"Decorate with the black and white checkered flags, and maybe even some of the little orange cones. If someone on your team is creative and handy, maybe make a cut out of a car. Sell "race day" foods (popcorn, hotdogs, pretzels) and goodies. (If I'm completely off on that, I'm sorry-I've never actually been to a race.) Maybe get a local Nascar store to donate some items to sell and a cardboard stand-up of a known driver would be awesome."*  
Thanks to MagieDCat for this great idea!
- **"Pitting For A Cure"** - pretend you are pit crew for a NASCAR team
- **"The Pit Crew"** - another good one (thanks to Haybug!)
- **Racing For A Cure**
- **Basketball**
  - **Slam Dunking A Cure** - Setup a basketball net (one of those nerf ones) and dress like a '70's basketball player (big glasses, headband, and uniform)... Invite other teams to come over for 2:2 basketball games for donation bets... The winning team gets a \$5 donation from the losers! (make sure you have the best 2 players so you earn a little more for your team! ☺ )
- **Baseball**
  - **Cancer Crushers** - "Our team this past year was **CANCER CRUSHERS**. We wanted to do a baseball theme and had a lot of different names suggested by our team members. We were determined to keep with the baseball theme throughout the event. For onsite fundraising we sold hot dogs and peanuts (just like at the ballpark). We had our own music (baseball music and highlights from our local major league teams' recent season). We had an oversized line up card with our team members name on it..." (Thanks to patrick440 for this!)
  - **Hitting Cancer To The Park** - Thanks to Rhasberry! -
  - **Striking Out For A Cure, or Striking For A Cure** - Great for a softball team participating in Relay! - Dress in your baseball team uniforms... create a baseball diamond on your campsite... make your tents your "dugouts" - divide your team into two groups and have a friendly competition between them to see which of your "subteams" raises the most money. Hold a charity fundraising whiffle ball game, where participants make a donation to participate, and the winning team gets their picture taken on stage for posterity and wins some cancer control prize. (Thanks to hobbit4)!
- **Biking**
  - **Lucky 7/LiveStrong** - Honor Lance Armstrong with this theme... You could:
    - You could all have bicycles and dress in bicycling outfits...

- Carry a "toy bike" as your baton around the track, and pass it from team member to team member.
- Have a water stand at the edge of the track and give water to those "Bikers" (walkers) going by.

- **Bowling**

- **Striking up a Cure** (bowling theme) - Dress in Bowling Shirts, bring bowling balls, etc... Set up a little fake bowling alley that people can knock down pins in as a "fundraising game" - have small prizes etc for those who get three strikes, etc. (Thanks to curebear88!)
- **Rolling For A Cure** - use a similar theme to right above!

- **Cheering/Cheerleading**

- **Powder Puffs** - Go to the store, get a bunch of cosmetics powder puffs and stick them all over yourselves. Easy to do, right? Then get a bunch of "puffy food" - white popcorn, marshmallows, etc. and serve them at your campsite and have a donation jar if people want to give you money.

- **Football**

- **Catching A Cure** - Have Nerf footballs and "toss" them around... ask people on the track to catch them to symbolize "Catching a Cure"... If they catch a cure, give them a small prize... (R. Moorthy Baltimore MD)
- **Most Valuable Player** - Have your campsite be football themed (see the decoration ideas on the other theme ideas)... Hand out awards for Most Valuable Players - give one to every survivor you meet on the track, give "caregiver awards" to caregivers, and so on... Make it fun and entertaining! (R. Moorthy Baltimore MD)
- **Rushing Towards a Cure** - Decorate your campsite like it is a football field - have yardline markers, etc. and everybody wear football helmets and jerseys if you have them!
- **TOUCHDOWN FOR A CURE** - Bring a lot of footballs and dress as players & cheerleaders. (12/04)

- **Golfing**

- **Driving It For A Cure**
- **Golfing For A Cure** - Have your team hold a golf tournament to raise money for Relay before Relay, and then follow the theme into your event for your team... Have a small course (with cups for holes) and let kids come and 'play golf' during the evening of Relay... Partner with the activities/on-site/logistics committees to publicize your golf course in the program.
- **Hole In One For A Cure**
- **Teeing It Up For A Cure**

- **Hockey**

- **Slapshot For A Cure** - Decorate your team site with team spirit for your favorite hockey team, wear jerseys, and set up a net that

people can score a slapshot in to win a prize... Have it going all night so that people can come over and have some fun when they're getting tired...

- **Horse Racing** - see **Animals, Horses**
- **Racing** - see **Auto Racing or Horse Racing**
- **Soccer**
  - **Kicking For A Cure** - A great theme for a soccer team or lovers... dress as soccer players, bring a ball to kick around (if your event allows it), if you are really hard-core wear real jerseys ☺ (thanks to miafan10 for sharing this great idea!)
- **State Themes** - See **50 States**, See **Mardi Gras/Louisiana**, See **Hawaiian Themes**.
- **Transportation Related Themes!**
  - **"Air Flight Related Themes"** - - Decorate your site with airplanes and clouds and such!
    - **Flying For A Cure**
    - **Soaring For A Cure**
    - **Skydiving For A Cure**
  - **Auto Racing** - See **Sports Themes/ Auto Racing**
  - **Boating/Sailing** - see **Boating**
  - **Bus-Related Themes**
    - **Get On The Bus For A Cure!** - Rent a Bus and decorate it with a Relay For Life banner and drive around town creating awareness for Relay For Life!!!!
  - **Car-Related Themes**
    - **"Car Bashers For A Cure"** - Get an old car, and hold an on-site fundraiser where people get to bash the car for a set period of time for a donation!
    - **Car Wash For A Cure** - Hold a fundraiser at the event washing cars for a donation!
    - **"GTO"** - by Ronny and the Daytonas - Similar to "Little Red Corvette"
    - **"Little Red Corvette"** after the Prince song -get Corvette matchbox cars and decorate your tent with a Corvette poster or have the kids paint it on a tarp...Have a jukebox and play the song.
    - **"Pink Cadillac"** - Bruce Springsteen... Again, similar to some of the ideas above for GTO or Little Red Corvette....
    - **"Doggies Cruisin' For A Cure"** - all wear bulldog masks and bring a cool car to the event that you put on display...
    - **"Doggies Driving For A Cure"** - Have pictures around your site of dogs driving cars :)
    - **"Canines Cruising For A Cure"**
  - **Driving** - See **Car Related Themes**
  - **Flying/Flight** - see **Air Flight**
  - **Motorcycles / Motorcycle Rallies**- With any of these themes, bring a bike to your campsite (not to ride), have Motorcycle related prizes (little Hot

Wheels Motorcycles, motorcycle goggles, motorcycle stickers, etc.)... Some of these themes can be used for Harley Davidson, Indian Motorcycles, Ducati, and others... Have your whole team dress in motorcycle chaps and helmets! *AND "This is not necessary Harley related, but what about a "tattoo" booth with some Harley tattoos and other goodies like that. You could also try to get some stuff donated and auction it off."* Thanks to Erica for this great idea!

- **Choppers For A Cure**
- **Fat Boys For A Cure** -
- **Hog-Wild for a Cure** -
- **Hogging For A Cure** -Bring a Harley to the Relay for inspiration
- **Motorcycle Mania!**
- **Riding the Roads For A Cure**
- **Sailing** - see Boating Themes above
- **TV Themes** - these relate to TV shows, etc.
  - **The Amazing Race** - Dress as contestants from the show and have "races" at the event for other teams to participate in... Have prizes for winners! You could have themes such as "Racing For A Cure", "The Sprint For The Cure". Have pictures of the cities and places around the world that the Amazing Race visits.
  - **American Bandstand** - Have an American Bandstand theme... Have the event MC DJ and play oldies... Have interteam dances where people make a donation to make their friends dance with others. Have fun - make people dance with each other, introduce people you know to each other that way, and so on... Each \$5 donation gets a dance couple on the track!
  - **Beverly Hillbillies** - Dress like the Beverly Hillbillies (complete with old truck, if you have it :) (thanks to Superbratt)
  - **Bewitched** - Dress up as Samantha, as well as Darren and have one of your kid's team members be little Amanda, as well as someone else be Samantha's mother...
  - **Cancer Survivor- Kenyan Safari** - Set up a Kenyan Safari at your campsite with the slogan "Cancer Survivor it's not a game, it's life!" - Decorate with African Safari hats, camouflage, and fake pistols that shoot out flags -write "CURE CANCER!" on the flags. Put some straw or something over your tent to make it look more "Grasslands"... It can be a play on Survivor the TV show... (Thanks to Zoomzoom, 5/04)
  - **"Cartooning For A Cure" or "Toon Out Cancer"** - Have each of your team members dress as a cartoon character to form your team... Decorate your tent like a cartoon house - maybe crazy colors, or something.... Have your cartoon characters walk the track with a Polaroid camera, and "sell" pictures for a \$1 donation to the ACS - NOTE: Target parents with kids - they won't say no to their kid wanting a picture with Wiley Coyote!!!! (Thanks to several different folks for this idea, including Jaime Lavigne)
  - **Friends Walking For A Cure** - "My team has participated in Relay for 4 years. Our team name 2 years ago was "Friends Walking For A Cure" the idea

came from the Friends TV show. This would be a good idea to do again this year as it's Friends last season on TV. We decorated our campsite to look like the inside of the coffee shop "Central Perk". We had a lot of fun that year!!" - Thanks to Karen for this great idea!

- **Gilligan's Island** -From Susanne: "I did Gilligan's Island - Castaway Cancer and won best decorated tent in our relay April 2004. It was cute. I purchased a bunch of cute stuff from oriental trading company on-line including leis, Gilligan hats, coconut cups, grass skirts for tables and tent. (www.orientaltrading.com)"... Could be a great idea! Dress as the characters (Mr. Howell, Gilligan, the Skipper, Maryann, Ginger, the Professor), have a fake boat too or even real boat there, and some palm trees!
- **"Goddesses For a Cure"**.... Thanks to aimie2006 - They all wore togas and tiaras... ☺
- **Hawaii-Cure-O** - Dress your team in Hawaiian shirts (www.orientaltraders.com is a good place to get them cheap), and serve Hawaiian drinks for a donation... Wear leis, grass skirts and the whole nine yards... If your event has a Miss Relay contest where a man has to dress as a woman, get all the guys on your teams to wear grass skirts (with something under them!) and lots of leis and enter the contest!
- **I Dream Of Jeannie** - Have someone dress up as Jeannie, and someone borrow military uniforms and dress up as Major Nelson and Major Healey...!
- **Love Boat For A Cure** - Dress up as the Love Boat crew, make your campsite or tent look like a boat, and "set sail for a cure!"
- **Mash** - Thanks to beepolite - The team dressed up as Mash characters - doctors and soldiers - and had a site that looked like the Mash set.
- **Mayberry RFD/Andy Griffith Show** - see right below - "Nip Cancer In The Bud"
- **Nick at Night** - Have Nick at Night be your theme... and have characters from shows on Nick At night (8/05)
- **Nip Cancer in the Bud!** - "You can have someone dress up like Barney and issue tickets throughout the event as a fundraiser. For example, if during the day, issue tickets to people not wearing sun screen, etc. You could also make a jail and hold people for donations...or take donations to arrest people.... Have an "Aunt Bee's Bake Sale." " - Thanks to MagieDCat! (11/05)
- **Schoolhouse Rock - ABC Saturday Morning Shorts Theme** - Remember "I'm Just A Bill, I am Only A Bill?" or Mother Necessity? Or The Great Melting Pot - If you do, it's because you were raised on Schoolhouse Rock like I was - A great theme might be to print out all the Schoolhouse Rock Songs, dress up like the characters, and dance around the track singing the songs. The worse your singing, the better! See the following website for the songs/ideas:

[http://www.postdiluvian.org/~gilly/Schoolhouse\\_Rock/HTML/history/](http://www.postdiluvian.org/~gilly/Schoolhouse_Rock/HTML/history/)

Or

<http://www.school-house-rock.com/index.htm>

(Submitted by Ramesh Moorthy, Baltimore MD)

- **"Walking Theme" (see "Running Theme" for running ideas)**



- **THE PAVEMENT POUNDERS** (thanks to Geddy!)
- **STREET WALKERS FOR LIFE** (thanks to Geddy!)
- **LIFE WALKERS** (thanks to Geddy!)
- **STRUTTIN' & JIVIN' FOR A CURE!** (thanks to Geddy!)
- **THE PACESETTERS** (thanks to Geddy!)
- **"Western/Country Themes" - Ideas that recall the Wild Wild West! In any of these ideas, you dress in Western outfits, serve western food (chili or stew), wear bandanas (Make Relay For Life bandanas) and decorate your site like a Western Town! (thanks to CvinTampa for some of these ideas!) You can also use these ideas for Country themed campsites...**
  - **Hillbillies** -also see TV, Beverly Hillbillies
  - **Hunting for A Cure** - Make your campsite look like an African Safari Hunt, everybody dresses up in camouflage, etc. etc. Or dress in Western Wear, and make like you are part of the Wild West... (thanks to the Towson Relay For Life!)
  - **Jail and Bail** - "You can do a "Jail & Bail". Make a "jail" out of wood or just rope of a section and decorate with poster board. You would charge \$1 to have someone locked up. Then charge the "prisoner" \$1.00 to be set free. Set a designated time (example: 10 minutes) to keep someone that doesn't bail out." (Thanks to CvinTampa! 4/05)
  - **Lumber Jacks Cutting Cancer Down to Size!** - Dress as lumberjacks, have axes, etc. and "cut cancer down" (thanks to Georgia Tech Relay 12/04)
  - **Prospecting for A Cure** - "Prospect for Gold" (donations) by going from campsite to campsite while dressed like California Gold Rush Gold Diggers.
  - **Running Cancer Outta Town** - Put on western attire, get some fake guns, and "run cancer outta town" as you walk/run around the track! (thanks to carolwest)
  - **Saddle Up For A Cure!** - Thanks to Jill - A great Western Theme for your event!
  - **Shooting Out Cancer!** - Use a western theme, have a canopy on your site and make it into a saloon. Put a fence on the front of your tent with some rocking chairs. Set it up so you can walk in through the swinging bar doors. Put a bar and 3 tables inside. Put cancer info on the canopy walls. You could have a so long cancer saloon (and even have non-alcoholic drinks for a donation - slushies work really well), as well as a Corralling cancer - OK Corral! (thanks to Angelamt for this idea - 6/29/04)
  - **Wrangling For A Cure** - "We... had a western theme for our team last year... We had some hay bales with an old wagon wheel. We all wore cowboy hats and had stick horses..." Thanks to Julie76! 11/04
  - **Wild West** - Use any of the ideas above... (thanks to Georgia Tech, 12/04)
- **"Word Play" themes:**
  - **Rachel's Relay Revelers**
  - **Howard's Hooligans**
  - **Steven's Survivor Supporters**
  - **Connie's Cancer Crusade**
  - **Keep Cancer Away!**

- **Cancer Crusaders: Catching a Cure**
- **"Work Related Themes":** IF you work in...
  - **BANKING** - See "Money/Financial Institutions/Banking Themes":
  - **BEAUTY or COSMETICS, IN A DEPT STORE COSMETICS DEPT, etc:**
    - **Powder Puffs** - Go to the store, get a bunch of cosmetics powder puffs and stick them all over yourselves. Easy to do, right? Then get a bunch of "puffy food" - white popcorn, marshmallows, etc. and serve them at your campsite and have a donation jar if people want to give you money.
    - **Haircuts for a Cure** - If your team has the skills, setup with the entertainment committee to give haircuts for a few hours for a donation to ACS!
    - **Beautify For A Cure** - If your team has nail/grooming/waxing skills, donate your skills for a few hours doing just that!
  - **CONSTRUCTION** - see construction above
  - **FINANCIAL AREAS** - See "Money/Financial Institutions/Banking Themes":
  - **FIRE PREVENTION** - See Fire above
  - **FOOD** - See "Food Related Team Themes" above
  - **HEALTH CARE** - See "Health Care Themes " above
  - **LAW ENFORCEMENT** - See Law Enforcement above
  - **MONEY** - See "Money/Financial Institutions/Banking Themes":
  - **MUSEUM** - See "Art Related Themes" above
  - **PHARMACIES** - See Pharmacy Related themes above.
  - **PHONE COMPANY** - See Phone Company themes above
  - **RESTAURANTS** - See "Food Related Team Themes"
  - **SALES** - See "Sales/People who are in Sales Themes" above
  - **SPORTING GOODS** - see Hunting/Fishing/Camping Themes above
- TELECOMMUNICATIONS** - See "Phone Company/Telecommunications Team Theme":