

FUNDRAISING

PRAYER TEAM

Before you begin any type of fundraising, give it to God in prayer. We often plan, execute and then pray for the best. The plan usually fails because we forget to ask God first.

Begin your preparations for your trip by raising a prayer support base of at least ten people who will pray regularly for you during your preparation and daily for you during the actual trip.

These must be people whose prayer life you know and trust. They need to be mature Christians who will take your prayer covenant very seriously. They should not be members of your team.

Send your prayer team prayer requests during your preparations and before you leave. Include things like fatigue, your attitude, your reactions, flexibility, safety, and health. You will sense their prayer support on your trip and will be able to get through situations beyond your own strength because of their prayers.

SUPPORT TEAM

Another common mistake in raising funds for a mission trip is believing it is only about the money. It is also about building a partnership with supporters. Paul says, **“I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now.”** Philippians 1:3-5

When someone agrees to support you, include them in your mission experience. Remember to send a thank you card before the trip and send a letter about your trip afterwards to follow-up.

LETTER WRITING

We have found that the best way for raising funds for a trip is through letter writing. In order to do that, we often must push aside our pride and let others in to help us- remembering that they will become a part of your trip through supporting you. ***Remember that people give to missions when they feel informed, when they believe their gift will change lives, when they feel like they are an important part of the trip and when they sense your enthusiasm about it.**

Make a list of family members, friends, and church members who may be interested in supporting you.

Write a letter including:

- What your trip entails
- Explain the purpose of your trip
- Give details of how God has led you to this trip
- Explain why you chose to participate
- Tell the reader of planned activities
- Explain the need
- Ask the reader for specific actions based on the need

SAMPLE FUNDRAISING LETTER

Following is an example of a letter that was successful:

Dear friends and family,

I hope this letter finds you well! I have some exciting news to share with you. I have an amazing opportunity to work alongside of GO Ministries in the Dominican Republic and Haiti (the island of Hispaniola) during the dates of: _____. This will be my _____ year working side-by side with the Local Leaders developing churches, ministries, and working with children.

The organization I am partnering with is a Christian Non-Profit organization called GO Ministries. GO is dedicated to the vision of Redeeming People, Renewing Communities and Restoring Creation through working alongside of Local Leaders creating opportunities for Partnership and Mutual Transformation. I will not come back unchanged and I will be a part of advancing ministry for the Gospel!

While I am there we will be working alongside Local Leaders to build a (church/nutrition center/school/medical complex). We will also have the opportunity to assist serving lunch in one of the Nutrition Centers GO operates daily. Each center serves lunch to 80-120 kids, six days a week and this will likely be the only meal those kids will receive. GO has over 11 Nutrition Centers across the island. We will also be providing Spiritual Development through several Children's Ministry Programs in impoverished communities that GO works in.

I am writing this letter to you in hopes of us partnering together to reach people in the DR and Haiti and to further the Kingdom! I would like to ask you to prayerfully consider partnering with me in these two ways:

1. Pray for me and for our team and for the people of the Dominican Republic and Haiti to receive the Gospel and for our work to be a blessing to those we are in contact with. Please pray for the Local Leaders of GO Ministries and all of the full-time missionaries working on the field. Prayer is the foundation of our mission!
2. I would also like to ask you to consider financially supporting me on my trip. I need to raise \$ _____. This cost includes all travel expenses, food, lodging and helps with the cost of the ministry I will be a part of once I arrive on the field. I must submit final payment by _____. If you would like to support me, please send in a check to (name of Church) and please write my name in the memo line with "DR Mission Trip".

I would love to keep you updated on details of the trip and the ministry happening in the DR through GO Ministries! You can check them out by visiting their website www.gomin.org. If you would like more information about the trip or GO please do not hesitate to call or email me at _____.

Dios le Bendiga! (Spanish for God Bless You!)

