

# how to raise support



**GLOBAL  
GOOD**

ONE OF THE FIRST  
STEPS OF YOUR  
MISSION EFFORT  
IS TRUSTING GOD  
TO PROVIDE THE  
FUNDS.

Raising support is an act of faith that God will get you where He wants you to go. It can be a time-consuming process, so get started as soon as you can. Don't procrastinate! There are several ways to raise support.

# Support Letters

**Why?** We advise you to send out support letters, regardless of how much you can pay with your own funds. Remember, the goal is to raise supporters, not just support. You are looking for a team of people to invest in what God is doing in your life, not just asking people for money. You need to be completely covered in prayer as you go on your mission and the support-raising process is ideal for that. Also, your letter itself can act as an encouragement to other Christians to be involved around the world.

**How many?** For most trips, we recommend that you send personalized support letters to at least 30 people.

**Who?** Ask the Lord's help in coming up with your support list. Don't be shy! Send letters to friends, family, extended family, coworkers, nonbelievers and anyone who might want to know what you are up to and might be able to help. Your letter may be an opening for you to share the gospel with nonbelievers. You will be amazed how God will raise funds for you as you let Him direct you.

**How?** As soon as your application is approved and you've paid your deposit, write your letters and put them in the mail. You should write the letter yourself and have someone check it for spelling and grammar. Avoid a standard "form" letter if possible. The body of the letter can be the same for all recipients, but personalize at least the name at the top and, if possible, an opening remark or closing comment for each letter you send. Limit your entire letter to no more than two pages. You will find two sample support letters attached to help you. Be sure to customize these to accurately reflect the details of your trip. Use a type font that is easy to read (12 or 14 point), and be sure to cover the following:

- Your call and motivation to go
- When and where you are going
- What you will be doing and to whom you will be ministering
- What you want from those who get your letter:
  - Prayer: Give specific ways to pray for you and those you are going to serve
  - Financial help: Mention your financial deadlines
  - Details regarding financial gifts:
    - The amount needed
    - How to give online or by check
    - Tax deductible nature of contributions
- Thank them for praying and supporting you

# phone calls

About 10 days after your letters are mailed, make follow-up phone calls to most of the people to whom you sent letters. This will give you a chance to tell them a bit more about your trip and ensure they do not forget about your letter. If you aren't making phone calls, you aren't raising support!

# other suggestions

Other fundraising suggestions below are several other ways to raise funds for a trip. Due to the number of people involved in Global Good, Cross Point Church is unable to host or advertise for fundraisers on campus or through Cross Point's digital spaces.

**Odd jobs:** Mow lawns, baby-sit or find other creative ways to earn additional money.

**Personal sacrifice:** Cut off the cable, bring your lunch to work, drink water instead of soft drinks, etc. Put any money you save toward the trip.

**Yard sale:** Host a team-wide yard sale. Ask friends and family to donate items for the sale, and split the money between each participating team member.

**Make something:** Use special talents or skills to make items for sale. Find a creative place to sell the items. Many people have used Fund The Nations to make T-shirts in the past with great success.

# common misconceptions about raising support

**MYTH: Friends don't ask friends for money. I'll lose friends.**

TRUTH: The body of Christ supports one another, and most friends will be happy to know about your trip and contribute what they can!

**MYTH: You shouldn't ask people to give. Just ask them to pray.**

TRUTH: You should definitely ask people to pray, but you can also ask them to give as they are able to further the mission of God through your trip.

**MYTH: If you have the money, you should just pay for your own trip.**

TRUTH: Of course you should put some "skin in the game" yourself; however, not raising any of the support is robbing others of the opportunity to invest in what God is doing in you and around the world!

**MYTH: You should only ask people that you think have disposable income and can afford it.**

TRUTH: It isn't about the amount someone is able to give but rather about the fact that they do give and join the mission of God in that way. You'll be surprised how God uses your request for support to shape others and call them deeper into his global mission.

**MYTH: You can't ask people for money that you asked last year.**

TRUTH: Remember you aren't raising support; you are raising supporters. Therefore, when done in the right way, you are building a team around you to pray for you, guide you, encourage you and indeed support you as you follow the Lord's call on your life. Therefore, as you build your support team, it is completely fine to ask people for support as you take part in different opportunities.

# Sample Support Letter

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

I wanted to share about an awesome opportunity I have coming up this spring! On June 18-27, I am going on a trip with others from my church to Santiago, DR to assist our partner GO Ministries and Pastor Moise with their small-group environments. If you are anything like me, small groups or community groups have significantly impacted your life. I can't begin to imagine where I would be if God hadn't strategically caused my life to intersect with other men who were pursuing a growing relationship with Christ. Each of the small groups I've been a part of served as a catalyst to grow me both personally and spiritually. I'm thrilled about this trip. Just think how a church, a city, and even a country could be changed if people began connecting with their Heavenly Father through small groups. The world would never be the same!

Here is how you can help. I need 100 people to give \$19 toward the cost of my trip. I'm not asking for a penny more. In our current economy, I completely understand the financial strain each of us is facing, so I'm asking you to invest a small amount that I'm sure will reap HUGE eternal rewards. Please join me through prayer and giving by going online at \_\_\_\_\_.

# Sample Support Letter

Dear Family and Friends,

Please take this quick and easy multiple choice quiz to learn what I will be doing this fall:

1. This fall I will:

- A. Quit my job and join the circus.
- B. Get married!
- C. Go on a mission trip to Africa.
- D. Do nothing significant.

**Answer: C (Why didn't any of you pick B?)**

2. While in Kenya I will:

- A. Eat only rice.
- B. Help teach kids about the Bible while working to empower local leaders.
- C. Work with a church in Africa that wants to impact their nation.
- D. Not have to use a squatty potty.

**Answer: B and C**

3. The needed funds to raise for this trip by June 1, 2017 are:

- A. \$4500.00
- B. \$49.99
- C. Nothing, I won the lottery.
- D. \$3300.00

**Answer: D**

4. Would you consider helping:

- A. Pack and iron my clothes for me.
- B. Join me as a prayer partner.
- C. Join me as a financial partner (Contribute online at \_\_\_\_\_ .)

**Answer: B and/or C. THANK YOU!**