

## Fundraising Resources

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Because you are going to be building a house as a team it only makes sense to raise the funds as a team! For some it is hard to come up with the finances needed, while for others it is not a concern. Below are a few ideas and suggestions on how to raise support for your trip.

For more ideas and fundraising opportunities, you can check out these websites:

Pumpkin Patch Fundraisers, Inc.  
Sandra Griffith  
425 NC Hwy 150 W  
Greensboro, NC 27455  
1-800-453-9793  
[sandra-ppf@triad.rr.com](mailto:sandra-ppf@triad.rr.com)  
[www.pumpkinsusa.com](http://www.pumpkinsusa.com)

Krispy Kreme  
[www.krispykreme.com](http://www.krispykreme.com)

Fund\$raiser  
[www.fundraiser.com](http://www.fundraiser.com)

### Envelope Fundraiser

This is a great way for those who want help but feel like they are not able to make a difference because the cost is too great.

Take 144 envelopes and on the inside label each one with a dollar amount starting at \$1, \$2, \$3 and so on up to \$144. Ask the congregation to grab an envelope on their way out, that no one amount is greater than \$144, and they can return it with money inside next week. When you do the math, it adds up to be a little more than \$10,000!!!

### Car Wash and Bake Sales

Car washes and bake sales are good traditional sources for raising funds. Car washes can be free with each team member raising sponsors on a per-car-washed basis or the team may charge a flat rate. Also, bake sales can be held at church, high school, sporting events, or alongside the church wide garage sale! Both events are a lot of work but have been known to generate substantial income.

### Dessert or Dinner Social

An individual or an entire team can plan the dessert or dinner social for extended family, friends, church members, etc. This provides an opportunity to orally present information about the trip as well as visually offer insight through the YWAM video provided. It may also be a good idea to offer the guests the appropriate ethnic cuisine while hosting the event in the home setting. Asking for a donation or receiving an offering at the end of the evening is appropriate.

### The support letter

An effective tool in raising support is found in a letter presenting the vision and needs of each individual and the team. Each person should generate a list of names of extended family members and friends to whom the letter could be sent. A form letter like the one on the following page, can be reproduced on the church or business letterhead for each team member to use. The team member should fill in the recipient's name, sign the letter and without exception, add a personal note on the bottom of each letter before sending. The letter should give a general idea of where the team is going, what the team will be doing, and most importantly, why the team wants to go. Including information about the area the team will go to will encourage the support team to pray for the people in that country and for the outreach. The letter should give a clear invitation to partner with the individual in prayer and finances and inform the recipients of the team member's intent to follow up the letter with a phone call within the next several weeks to hear of the potential supporter's decision.

It is important for each team member to be upfront and honest. The persons receiving the letter should sense the privilege of joining with the team in the outreach. The supporters should know they are an integral part of the team.

Regardless of the decision, the potential supporters should be asked to partner with the team members on this mission through prayer both before and during the trip.

It should be noted that a similar support letter could be used to ask for team donations from corporations and businesses. Many companies allocate money each year to be used for tax-deductible donations. It would be best to compose a letter for the entire group that represents the group's total financial need. Several team members should personally deliver the letters to the businesses. Most corporations would be eager to support a team of passionate people wanting to serve the needy. Asking can be a powerful witness to the communities!

[Print this on your church or business letterhead](#)

(Date)

Dear \_\_\_\_\_:

We are pleased to announce that (add group name or church) will be participating in a very special event to change the lives of a needy family. (Add Dates) we will be traveling to (Ensenada or Tijuana), Mexico, to build a home for a family who has been previously selected. The house will be built in conjunction with Youth With A Mission - San Diego, Baja's Homes of Hope project.

Youth With A Mission selects families to receive homes based upon extreme need. Most of the families have at least three children and an income of around \$80 a week. The homes built are sturdy shelters with three windows and a front door and a solid foundation. They replace small make-shift shelters made with pallets, odd pieces of wood and plastic tarps.

Our team will work alongside qualified builders from Youth With A Mission and also along with the needy family who is receiving the home. We will hammer, hang dry wall, paint, etc., and complete the project in two days. Upon completion of the home we will have a dedication ceremony and present the family with the keys to their new home.

Would you be willing to help us raise the remainder of the funds needed to complete this project? The cost of the entire trip for (add group number and total cost) which includes the home, some small furniture items such as beds, stove, and table (if you choose this option) and our team's travel and lodging expenses. Overall (add amount) has been raised through (you can mention fundraisers you have held or a donation). Together we are working to raise about (add amount) more to provide all the resources needed. All donations are tax-deductible and checks should be made payable to "Youth With A Mission." We would be grateful for any size contribution.

This will be a life changing process for the family that receives the home and also for our team as we serve others who are currently living in great need. This is a great Community Service project for us that will make a lasting impact in the lives of a Family in (Ensenada or Tijuana), Mexico. Thank you for considering a contribution towards this project.

I will phone you in a week or two to answer any questions you may have and hear of your decision.

Thank you for your time and consideration. It would be great to have you partner with us to bless the needy.

Sincerely yours,

(Name of Group)