



## TWENTY-THREE IDEAS FOR SUPPORT-RAISING

**Please Note:** Due to the volume of our teams, the IRS does not allow for us to use the building for fund raising purposes. All supplemental fund raising must be done off site.

1. *Pray.* Seems obvious, but we often don't spend enough time asking God to supply the needs for us and the trip.
2. *Personal Prayerful Commitment.* Challenge them to pray about giving toward their trip first with what they believe God wants them to contribute.
3. *Personal Letters.* Sample letters can help spur team members onto this very difficult task of asking for money. Letters by far are the most effective. They need to send letters to at least 35 people.
4. *Garage Sales.* Joint or individual. Utilize the example flyer as a way of gaining more "stuff" to sell from neighbors.
5. *Bigger and Better Game via Facebook.* Team members can create a page using a paperclip or golf ball, where they start with an object they own and trade up. In the end, they will sell an item worth an amount on Craig's list. This can get viral quick.
6. *Birthday Mission Party.* Theme the party based on the country/project you are going to and have guests donate travel items, ministry supplies and money.
7. *Parent's Night Out.* Partner with the children's ministry and provide babysitting at the church. Engage your whole youth ministry to serve. Plan a great activity night and have a minimum asking donation. Make sure parents know what you are raising money for.
8. *Labor Drive.* Offer doing labor at the homes of other church members for a donation to the trip.
9. *Coffee House Gig.* Get a worship or otherwise band to do a benefit concert.
10. *Teach about Sacrificial Giving in your Life Groups.* Challenge the group to stretch in their support.
11. *Themed Dinner and Silent Auction.*

12. *Car Detailing.* Pre-sell detailing tickets to neighbors/friends/family to get more than a car-wash.
13. *A month after the support letters were sent,* have people send emails to the same people asking them to pray that the money would come in. (It's a great way of reminding people of the need without asking them to give again)
14. *Part Time Jobs.* Even a Jr. High student can appeal to neighbors and friends for babysitting, lawn, and house cleaning jobs to put toward the trip.
15. *Engage other "experts" in your congregation.* Find those with gifts/experience in special event planning and host a 5K run, mini-triathlon (based on activities suitable for your region), trekking teams, etc. With fairly low-cost community advertising and promo at another local event, you can raise quite a bit of funds.
16. *Promote the cause for collective fundraisers* that are communicated to the community. Instead of saying, "Help this team go on a mission trip to Mexico", use language like "Caring for children in impoverished communities". Focus your language on the goal of the project.
17. *Throw a community carnival.* Spend time planning costs well before incurring expenses to see if this can be an income producing for your community.
18. *Youth Trips: Parent's part-time jobs.* How much "parent change" in the pocket do you have? Any of the parents willing to work a part-time job for a month or two and give their earnings toward the trip?
19. *Live near a field?* Negotiate your group working a few Saturdays during Harvest Season in exchange for an equitable donation toward the trip.
20. *Got a booth and a parking lot?* Christmas Trees...Fireworks....local harvest crop....
21. *Local restaurant fund-raiser.* Several chains (like Red Robin and Ruby's) or a local community restaurant will offer a proceeds night in exchange for advertising and bringing in a crowd.
22. *Recycle Event.* Check on costs for disposing of paints, batteries, large appliances, etc. Add a delivery cost to the dump fee. Arrange your parking lot into a one-stop drop for customers. Get volunteers with trucks to deliver to appropriate waste sites. Advertise in the local papers as a community event.
23. *ASK local companies for support and donations.* Even your own employer might use the do-gooding as promotion for being an engaged business for social causes.