



FUND-RAISING Launch Guide

BEFORE BEGINNING TO FUNDRAISE,
ASK YOURSELF A FEW QUESTIONS...

***WHICH STATEMENT REFLECTS YOUR
FUND-RAISING ATTITUDE?***

"I'm just asking
for money."

OR

"I'm telling
people about what
God is doing in my life
and I'm giving them a
chance to be a
part of it."

***WHY IS RAISING YOUR OWN
SUPPORT SO IMPORTANT?***

1

Creates awareness
for your mission's
cause.

2

Generates prayer
support.

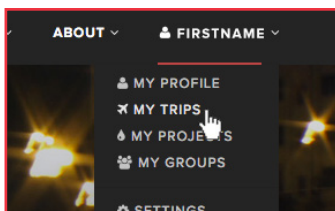
3

Stretches
your faith.

IDEA #1

DESIGN YOUR MISSIONS.ME FUND-RAISING PAGE

Missions.Me provides each missionary with an easy online tool to apply, submit paperwork and fund-raise all in one place. Your very first step is applying. Jump on your PC or mobile device and visit www.missions.me. Click the MY ACCOUNT button in the top right corner of your page and sign in.



Then click your name in the top right corner of the navigation bar.

This will reveal a drop down menu.

Select **MY TRIPS**.



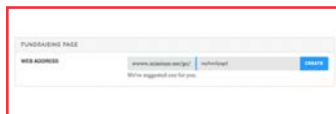
Find the trip you'd like to create the page for.

Select the blue **VIEW** button.



This should take you to your Trip Dashboard page. Select the last item on the menu on the left of the screen.

Click the **FUND-RAISING PAGE** tab.



Create your custom URL that you'll be able to send out to friends and family. Then click the blue **CREATE** button.



You'll then be forwarded to your brand new Fund-raising Page. You can add a custom video, custom support letter and keep up to date on deadlines and current progress. Be sure to Facebook, Tweet and Email this link to your friends, family and supporters.

IDEA #2

START WITH YOUR HOME CHURCH AND FAMILY

Talk to your pastor, youth pastor, missions committee and/or youth group. See if they would be open to any of the following:

- Share in front of your church to raise awareness for your trip and take up a love offering.
- Talk to your youth group and find out if they would be willing to help with some of your larger fund-raisers.
- Find out if your church has a missions committee that has a budget dedicated to helping support missionaries like you.
- Schedule your fund-raisers directly after church service.
- See if there is a bulletin where you could announce your trip or spread the word about your fund-raisers.
- The key is getting the word out about what you are doing, why you are doing it, and how others can help.

IDEA #3

WRITE A SUPPORT LETTER

This is one of the easiest ways to get the word out about your trip. You'll want to get this done as early as possible because it will take time before money comes in. Send it to as many people as possible, even if they can't support you financially. Remember you're also building prayer support! Here are some tips to writing a great support letter:

- Personal Life Update: Where are you now? What is God doing with your life?
- Trip Location: Where are you going? Why there?
- Purpose of Trip: What will you be doing there? Why do you feel God is calling you? Share your passion!
- How Can They Support Your Trip?
- Prayer: This is a powerful and easy way for anyone to be able to sup-

port your trip, even if they can't financially.

- Financially: Include the cost of the trip and your deadline. As well as include the link to your fund-raising page and any other ways they can donate to you.
- Who should I send my letters to?
 - Family
 - Friends of family
 - People at your home church
 - Peers
 - Business people
 - Neighbors
 - Friends
 - Parents of close friends
 - People at work
 - Teachers or Professors

I should send my letter out by _____, and make follow up calls on _____.

Remember, until you send the letter the answer is no. You are simply trying to discover who will partner with your team and provide you with a yes!



SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER

(Insert Current Date)

(Your Name)

(Your Address Goes Here)

Dear (Insert Name of Potential Supporter),

I hope all is well with you and your family! I am writing to share some exciting news with you regarding an opportunity to [share the message of the Gospel/share the love of Jesus Christ/give a second chance to orphans/solve a crisis happening around the world]. This summer, I am joining a passionate team of fellow missionaries, traveling to [your nation] for a life-altering short-term trip with Missions.Me. We will be leaving on [insert start date] for a [insert trip length] day trip focused on [evangelism, medical outreach, well building, home building, leadership conferences]. The government and local leaders of [this nation] are open and ready for our team. In the past years, Missions.Me has been instrumental in seeing thousands of people come to the Lord. I have felt a compassion for the lost and broken for some time now and believe this is the first step in my calling to the nations of the world. This is sure to be an unforgettable experience.

In preparation for departure, I am seeking support, both financially and in prayer. I need to raise [\$\$ amount] to make my trip possible. Will you consider a gift of \$100, \$50 or \$25 or more to make my dream a reality? I am also personally doing [list other fund-raising methods, show them you are working for the \$\$, not just asking for it] to raise money for the trip. There are so many people who have not heard the Good News of Christ, and I will have the chance to share the message of His love. What a responsibility, but also what a privilege!

I appreciate your consideration of support. Included is a return envelope for your use. I sincerely appreciate your prayerful consideration in helping make this trip possible.

Sincerely,

(Insert Your Name Here)

PS. If you have any questions about the short-term mission trip, please feel free to contact me at [your phone number]. I thank you so much for your faithful prayers and financial support. Please make checks out to Missions.Me with an attached note or my name on the memo line. **If you'd rather give quickly by credit card, visit my Missions.Me profile at www.missions.me/yourcustomurl.** There you can watch videos about my trip, and give quickly and securely.

Mail all checks to:

Missions.Me

145 S. Livernois Rd.

Suite 308

Rochester Hills, MI 48307

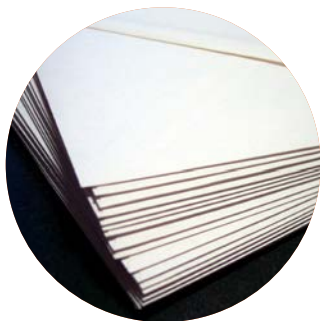
IDEA #4

SETUP AN ONGOING FUND-RAISER

Some fund-raisers are more than one day events and take time to complete. Now is the time to start working on these fund-raisers. Some ideas include an envelope fund-raiser, donation jars at small businesses, can drive at church, weekly church bake sale or weekly regular social media posts.

EXAMPLE: ENVELOPE FUND-RAISER

1. Take 50 envelopes and number them 1-50.
2. Make this available to your friends, family, and community. Let them know when they take an envelope they need to commit to pay whatever the amount on the envelope says. For example, if they take envelope #12 they need to put \$12 into the envelope. If they take #49 they need to put \$49 into the envelope.
3. You need at least 50 people to be involved. Let them know you will be collecting all the envelopes on a specific Sunday at church.
4. If you can have all 50 envelopes taken and paid for, you just raised \$1,275.
5. Be strategic. Plan things like this at the beginning of your fund-raising because these will be building on themselves while you do other fund-raisers.



IDEA #5

SCHEDULE A ONE DAY FUND-RAISER

Whether its an 80's party, an ugly Christmas sweater party or a Battle of the Bands event, get creative and HAVE FUN! Make your event something that YOU would like to attend. People will be more motivated to give if they're having fun.

Locations are very important if you are doing something similar to a car wash or bake sale. Look for key locations with a lot of traffic.

Recruit friends and people who will be able to help! Find ways to take simple fund-raisers and make them more interesting.

WHAT YOUR DONORS SHOULD KNOW:

Be sure to let possible donors know how they can contribute:

1. Sending checks* to you.
 - a. Make checks payable to “Missions.Me”
 - b. Include your name on the MEMO line
 - c. Mail to: Missions.Me
Attention: Missionary Accounts
145 S. Livernois Rd. Suite 308
Rochester Hills, MI 48307

**All check donations need to be sent to you first and then sent from you to Missions.Me. This will help you keep detailed record of all donations for your trip.*

2. Contribute instantly via credit card online at missions.me/_____
3. Contribute instantly via credit card over the phone at 877.369.4532. Make sure that if you have selected Missions.Me or your church to receive payments, your donors are fully aware of all tax benefits.

TAX INFORMATION

1) To receive a tax deduction, sponsors must make their checks payable to Missions.Me. Missions.Me has been recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a tax-exempt organization described in Internal Revenue Code Section 501 (C) (3) and is eligible to receive tax deductible donations. All contributions to Missions.Me are solicited with the understanding that Missions.Me retains complete discretion and control over the use of donated funds.

2) Contributions are NOT refundable, nor can the donor or missionary request the contribution be designated for another missionary. All funds donated by sponsors become the exclusive and permanent property of Missions.Me when received and are at all times under the complete discretion and control of Missions.Me. Donated funds will be used in the furtherance of Missions.Me's tax-exempt purposes of missions work and evangelism. If you fail to meet the required financial deadlines, all project funds will be allocated to the Angel House/Missions.Me Humanitarian Relief Efforts.

3) Sponsors are NOT to make the check out to you personally. If the check happens to be made out for you, please be sure to endorse the check before sending it in.

WRITE A THANK YOU LETTER (AFTER THE TRIP)

A support letter isn't complete without a follow-up Thank You Letter AFTER the trip is over. Its time to testify and tell your supporters about all the lives their generosity affected! Here are some tips on writing a Thank You Letter:

- Share the statistical results of your trip. i.e. people reached, people receiving humanitarian aid
- Get personal. Share a personal story from your trip. Use personal pronouns (I, We, You).
- Speak to the donor. Tell them what their gift means to you - and tell them what their gift did through you.
- Verify that you have the donor's correct information (Name Spelling, Donation Amount)
- Don't ask for another donation in the thank you letter. This letter should be written purely to thank them and inform them on what their donation helped accomplish.
- Include a picture from the trip, possibly one that goes with your story.
- Sign the letter personally.



SAMPLE THANK YOU LETTER

(Insert Current Date)

Dear (Insert Name of Supporter),

I hope all is well with you and your family! I am writing to say thank you for your selfless donation to my [Trip Name]. Your generous gift enabled me to be a part of several great opportunities to share and spread the gospel in the nation of [Country]. Together, you and I were a part of the incredible transformation of [Number of people you and your team shared the Gospel with/Humanitarian Aid] lives through [For Humanitarian Aid tell what aid was given. e.g. # of wells that gave water to # of people].

I can't even begin to tell you about every event and moment that impacted my life during this trip, but here's one of my favorites.
[Share a personal story from your trip].

All of this was possible because of your gift. I am now forever changed because of what you have done. I want to sincerely thank you for being a financial supporter and for changing countless lives of people in [Country].

For the Nations,
(Insert Your Name Here)
(Sign Personally)



Where you can change the world.

