

FUNDRAISING IDEAS

By going on a Belize Mission Trip you're putting yourself in a position to learn about serving others & to share God's love. When people contribute to your trip, they're helping send you out to meet a need or to answer a calling. An important experience offered by participating in a Missions Trip is to see the Lord provide the necessary finances. It is important to allow family and friends to partner with you through financial, emotional and prayer support. During this process, you will find that people want to be involved in what you are doing, to impact lives through you.

FINANCIAL AND PRAYER SUPPORT

- We would encourage you to enlist others to spiritually and financially support your mission trip.
- Having other believer's support your endeavor is not only okay, it is biblical. (Many people want to participate in missions but are not able to go. It is a joy for them to help send people like you.)
- Ask people to be part of your Prayer Support Team as well, and send them updates by email on how they can be personally praying for you while you are in Belize.

RAISING SUPPORT

- The process of raising funds can admittedly be an uncomfortable one. It is an exercise in humility, which is certainly not a bad thing. Also it enables you to receive blessings from others. Keep in mind that our God is gracious and good.
- God is the owner of all things (Psalm 50), and if you believe the Lord is compelling you to go, please do not let the issue of money stop you. He can and will provide for you.
- We encourage you to read 1 Cor. 9:3-14 to understand that requesting money to further the work of the Lord's Kingdom is not only acceptable, but biblical. That's a good realization.

SEVEN WAYS TO RAISE SUPPORT

1. Yourself: Your savings, work.
2. Your Family: Their support and belief in what you are doing – Very affirming.
3. Your Friends: They would love to enable you go by providing support. Even if all they can give is one dollar, every penny counts.
4. Your Church: Ask your Pastor, Sunday School Teacher and/or small group leader for help. Also ask if you can share for a few minutes in a Church Service or at a Church group, or show our Mission Video.
5. Your Local Newspaper: Ask them to write an article about you and your trip.
6. Your Party: Hold a Belize Party at your house and invite all your family and friends, and share with them about your trip.
7. Your Fundraising Letter: Mailing a Fundraising Letter is how most Team members raise most of their funds. Here's some Fundraising Letter pointers and a sample letter to help get you started:

- Make a list of the people you know – friends, relatives, neighbors, associates, schoolmates, people from your church, clubs and groups to which you belong. Start with a few and then expand it.
- Send each person on the list a letter or talk to them in person explaining your Belize Mission Trip and then ask them to give to help you go and to pray for you (see sample letter).
- Send a thank you note to all who do choose to support you and a letter after you return (include pictures).
- If the donation is sent in the form of a check, it is VERY IMPORTANT that it be made payable to “INTERNATIONAL SERVANTS” with “BELIZE MISSION TRIP” written in the “memo” section of the check. Do not write your name anywhere on the check.
- Checks can be sent to your address, but when you forward your checks to us, include a separate note with your name on it so we’ll know whose Trip the checks are for.
- Mail checks to: International Servants, PO Box 350070, Palm Coast, FL 32135-0070

SAMPLE LETTER

Dear (insert their first name),

As you know, I have always been active at my Church. I love helping others and volunteering. Lately, I have felt the need to really get involved in a more personal way. I’ve felt that God has been leading me to serve on a short-term Mission Trip.

The Lord has blessed me with the opportunity to travel to Belize this (insert date) with a Mission Team to serve with a Mission called International Servants, which is bringing hope through Medical Mission clinics, Feed-A-Child Programs, Church Construction and Children’s Ministry.

Belize is one of the poorest countries in the Western Hemisphere, with thousands of needy children & families living in desperate poverty. Our Belize Mission Team will be involved in three main areas:

- Medical: We’ll be treating over a thousand patients in a jungle area where most still live in grass huts with no access to Medical care and where 40 percent of children suffer from malnutrition.
- Children’s: We’ll be teaching and sharing Jesus with 700 students at a local school.
- Construction: We’ll be working on several projects including improving the Children’s Feeding Program building and several of their local Churches.

I would like to invite you to partner with me both by your prayers and your financial support as I begin this journey. This is such a great opportunity for me to serve through the talents God has given me. For this trip to become a reality, I am working to raise \$1,700 to cover my expenses.

If you feel led to contribute financially to this mission, any amount you can provide will be greatly appreciated. Please make your check payable to “International Servants” and mail it to (insert mailing address) no later than (insert date). In the memo section, please write “Belize Mission Trip” and attach a separate note with my name on it in order to receive a tax-deductible Receipt from International Servants.

Thank you in advance for your prayers, financial support and encouragement. I am excited to share my mission experience with you upon my return!

Blessings!!! (insert your name)