

## **FUND RAISING GUIDELINES**

Fund raising is not impossible; neither is it easy. It usually won't happen merely by faith. Two budgets are involved: Trip expenses and ministry expenses. Handle these separately, for the cost of materials should not be the team members' sole responsibility. They are using their vacations and leaving their families to participate in the trip.

As a rule, ministry team participants should pay their own expenses and ministry expenses should be handled by those who can't travel with the team. Even if someone cannot afford the full cost of his trip expenses, it is recommended that he pay as much as possible. That arrangement assures his commitment to the success of the trip and helps him to value the results of the work more. (Note ~ it is recommended that the deposit amount for the trip be set at a nominal amount, probably \$200. Once a person is committed to go on the trip, he/she should pay the deposit amount and know that it is non-refundable if they should back out of the trip, especially once airline tickets are reserved and paid for.)

Ministry funds can be budgeted by a church, raised by department projects, or given by others in the church. Special offerings may be taken. The leadership of the sponsoring church or churches should agree in advance on whatever method is used.

It is frowned upon greatly for individuals to approach other members of the congregation to attempt to raise funds for their trip. Congregants will become very tired of being felt pressured to give to everyone's trip. The congregation should only feel compelled to give as a whole to special offerings for projects, etc. Individuals should concentrate on family members and close friends to raise funds.

It is possible, however, with the pastor and board approval to have bake sales, car washes, special dinners, etc. to raise the needed funds and then disburse evenly among those trip individuals who participated in the event.

In conclusion, we have determined if a person is truly called to go on a mission's trip, God always provides the means for him/her to go. We have seen God do miracles in providing the resources for individuals. The first fund-raising rule is to pray, pray, pray and listen as God gives the answer!!

### **The People Helping People Network**

[www.phpnetwork.org](http://www.phpnetwork.org)

3205 Madison Avenue

Indianapolis, IN 46227

(317) 781-4769