

HOW TO RAISE FUNDS FOR A SPRING BREAK MISSION TRIP

We are all in this together!

The great thing about being a Christian is that you are NEVER ALONE! God never leaves us, nor forsakes us (Joshua 1:5), and He regularly takes care of us by the brothers and sisters around us. It's the same way with mission trips. It's not just you that gets to participate in the mission trip. Many other people get to participate too - even if they aren't going on the trip! Chi Alpha's Expeditions Motto is "Every Student Goes, Every Student Gives, Every Student Prays, Every Student Welcomes". If you can't go - give, if you can't go - pray, and etc.

We encourage all students ask God to provide the funds for a trip through the people around them. We see things like this in Acts 2:44-47, where believers give to needs, and we rely on each other to fulfill God's desires in our life. Thanks God we don't have to be lone soldiers!

**EVERY
STUDENT** GOES
GIVES
PRAYS
WELCOMES

We encourage all students who commit to a missions trip to fund that trip through the gifts of others.

So how do I start?

Before you start PRAY - ask God to lead to you a list of names (10 for starters), ask for God to move on their hearts, ask Him to provide for your trip, ask Him to provide for you - He's a really great dad, and He has promised to take care of you (Matthew 6). As you have your list of names, feel free to use the sample letter on the next page. You will want to email, snail mail, or hand deliver it depending on your time frame.

It's a great thing when people get together for Jesus, some get the priveledge of going, others get the priveledge of giving, but we all get to do something!

Other things to consider

- Host a support letter writing party for your team, it can be doubled as a prayer meeting
- If you raise more than your budget, gift it to other members, or to the people you are serving
- If you received a lot of support from one person/family, consider a gift for them from your trip
- Host a post-trip party to write thank you notes to all your supporters, and share stories

SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER

NOTE: This is an example letter that will help you create your own. You should use language that makes it personal from you. Treat it like a letter you would write to a friend, and include the important elements shown in this sample.

Dear _____,

Hello! I hope everything is going well with you. I can't believe another year is almost gone! It's been too long since we've spoken, and I just wanted to reconnect, and let you know about some of the great things that are happening in my life. **(Intro Paragraph: Start off casual and comfortable...(re)introduce yourself)**

College has been going pretty well lately, and I just finished Fall Semester...which is pretty exciting. Now I've started Spring Semester, and I'm looking forward to Spring Break. This school year I have been involved with Chi Alpha Campus Ministries – a Christian group at Wright State. Because of that, I'm looking forward to an awesome opportunity to go on a mission trip to Columbus, OH with my Chi Alpha group. I'm constantly growing closer to God through my experiences within our group, and now I'm ready to see how God is working in a completely different part of our world. **(Paragraph 2: Explain some things that are going on in your life and tie it into your involvement at Chi Alpha)**

This Spring Break, when many students will be partying, resting, and many other things, I get the opportunity to go with a team of student to _____ to volunteer with Columbus Teen Challenge. The dates for this trip are June 19th – 29th. While volunteering with Teen Challenge, we'll be working as camp coaches (counselors), loving teens, praying with teens, coaching teens, and believing that God will heal and reach into the heart of our native friends. The local clinic tells us that we can expect that many (most every) teen has battled with drug addiction for the majority of their life, and have been trying for years to break the addiction. Columbus is the 3.14th city for drug addictions in the nation, and Teen Challenge has been working there for 10 years. This is the 3rd years that we have committed to this ministry to see the love of Jesus shared in a hard pressed part of the country. **(Paragraph 3: Proceed with an explanation of the mission trip)**

This trip provides an opportunity to meet the physical and spiritual needs of a community that is desperately in need. I would value your prayers for our team and those whose lives will be touched by God through us. I believe that God answers prayers, and I'm asking you to pray for safety, good health, smooth travel, and financial support. **(Paragraph 4: Make a request for prayer, emphasizing the importance prayer will play in the success of the trip)**

Beyond your prayers, if you are led to join me by financially supporting this mission, I would be grateful. Each person in our group needs to raise \$200 to cover the total cost of the trip. We will have to be creative to raise the money, and I want to extend an invitation to you to participate. To make it as easy as possible, I've included a page that explains the process for giving and a self-addressed envelope. This is a journey that I believe God has called me to and I would greatly appreciate any level of support you are able to offer. **(Paragraph 5: Invite them to participate financially)**

Again, I really hope things are going well for you. I'd love to hear an update on what's going on in your life if you have the time. I will definitely be praying for you. Thanks so much for taking the time to read this letter, and if you have any questions, please let me know. Take care, and I hope to hear from you soon! **(Final Paragraph: Thank them for their time and let them know you'll be praying for them. Be sure to make it a "hope to hear from you soon" conclusion that expects some sort of response)**

With gratitude,

Your Name