



Fundraising Idea Packet

We are so very happy for your desire to join us on this mission trip to Haiti this year! We hope you'll enjoy it as much as we have over the years.

We work hard to make sure you have an amazing trip with us. As we know with most things – that requires adequate funding and we know you have to work hard for this. We do our best every year to keep the cost affordable, particularly for students with little-to-no income; but it's still a hefty expense. And so, you may be concerned with being able to get the finances for your part of the trip. BUT, know we have seen around 1,500 people go on our trips and raise all of their funds, that's encouraging!

How do you find the financial aid you need to go on a short-term mission experience? How do you get people to consider making donations?

Steps I can Take...

Who do I ask?

Make a list of individuals and churches with whom you can share your vision, passion and call. Ideas for contacts to recruit sponsors:

- Your church missions committee or council
- The church where you grew up
- Friends and acquaintances at each of these churches
- People at your work place
- Acquaintances outside your normal church circles (neighbors, for instance)
- Alumni from your school
- Friends involved in other Christian groups and ministries
- Friends and contacts of your parents
- Relatives
- Christian contacts at your university (professors, administrators, staff)
- Christian parents of your friends
- Your close friends

Prioritize your list into your "Top 10," Second 10, Third 10 and so on:

- Those "Top 10" donors or sponsors will probably provide 2/3's of your financial support.

1. Ask appropriately and with respect.
2. Don't be afraid to ask for large gifts of money.
3. Decide the best way to contact each person on your top 10 list and what gift range you would like to ask them to consider giving.

Possible ways to contact are:

- Face-to-face funding presentations
- Phone call followed with an information letter and response card and envelope
- Fund-raising letter with **the website www.restorehaiti.com, response card and stamped envelope with Restore Haiti's address**, followed up by a phone call if they do not get back to you in time. ***Examples Included Below***

4. Contact each person on your "Top 10" list. Set yourself a deadline to get this done
5. Follow up with them as planned
6. Repeat steps 1-5 for your second 10
7. Continue steps until you reach 100% of your fund raising goal

Other Ideas...

- Church presentation
- Other creative options such as car wash, bake sale, garage sales

Sample Fundraising Letter and Response Cards

One method we suggest our Team Members use to raise their mission trip funding is the mailing of support letters to friends and family, and anyone else who might be interested to invest in our trip. Below you'll find a

Sample Fundraising Letter. Feel free to copy/paste, edit/revise this letter to make it your own.

Below, there is a **Sample Response Cards** that you will need to include with each **Fundraising Letter** along with a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Please feel free to make copies of the Response Cards and cut off one to include in each letter. Each supporter should fill out a Response Card and send it back to us along with their donation for the mission trip.

Tracking Document and Donation Summary Form

We recommend that you develop a tracking document of the Fundraising Letters that you mailed – and the Response Cards that you have received. Set a date to follow up by phone within two weeks after sending each Fundraising Letter to verify that they received the letter plus ask if they have any questions.

As you receive donations, document the name of the donor and amount given in **the Yes, I would like to support this mission and bring hope and healing to others in need!**

I will begin praying now for effective ministry to the nationals

I would like to give a gift of \$_____

Please apply this gift toward the trip of (missionary's name):_____

My Name:_____ Address:_____

City:_____ State:____ Zip:_____ Email:_____

Home #:(____)_____ Work #:(____)_____ Cell #:(____)_____

I would like to receive updates on ministry events and impact: Yes No

Method of Giving: Check Cash Cashier's Check

Mail To: Restore Haiti PO Box 680278 Franklin, TN 37068

Pay Online - Use the **"Make Donation"** button <https://www.restorehaiti.com/donate/> and email a corresponding **Donation Summary** to theresa@restorehaiti.com with a note of the amount that was paid online and which missionary to designate it to.

Donation Summary

Make Payment Online –

Once you have raised enough funds to meet a financial deadline, please do one of the following:

- Use the “**Make Donation**” button <https://www.restorehaiti.com/donate/> and email a corresponding **Donation Summary List** to theresa@restorehaiti.com with a note of the amount that was paid online, or
- Write a consolidated check for the funding amount to **Restore Haiti** and mail it to

Restore Haiti PO Box 680278 Franklin, TN 37068 – check memo: Trip and accompanied by a corresponding **Donation Summary Form**.

Thank Your Donors

After you receive a gift from someone, be sure to send a thank you note. Let them know that you appreciate their support and partnership on this trip. Start thinking now about how you'd like to follow up with them after the trip (e.g. send a trip report or host a follow-up coffee). Another suggestion: Send them a postcard or small gift and let them know about the exciting things that God did on the trip and how they were a vital part of the work there.

Sample Fundraising Letter

(today's date)

(name of potential supporter)

(address), (city), (state) (zip)

Dear *(name of potential supporter here)*,

I am writing to let you know of an exciting opportunity. God has opened the door for me to go on a short-term mission trip to Haiti **(ADD DATES)** The trip is being led **Restore Haiti**, of Franklin, TN.

My Team's Goals and Activities:

- First, we will be allowing God to work in us through the personal enrichment that comes from this type of a mission trip. We will learn to focus individual prayers by traveling to a foreign land and praying 'on-site with insight.' We will pray for the Haitian people that God may open eyes and hearts to the message of Jesus.
- Secondly, we will feed children in a feeding program, run by Restore Haiti. They have approx. 725 children in there program that they feed and send to school daily.
- Third, we will be visiting homes of the people in the community and ministering to them. Many believe that voodoo will save them but we will share with them about the One, True God who is mighty to save.
- Fourth, we will encourage local Christians in Haiti. Our presence will bolster their spirits and support their work. We will spend time with the local church people and leaders. We will develop relationships with them. They face trials that are unique and we wish to encourage them that it is worth the hard work.

(Describe how you heard about the trip and/or why you are going on this mission)

I want to invite you to be an important part of this mission. First, we would appreciate your prayers. We know that the ministry that takes place overseas starts now with prayer. Secondly, I'd be most grateful for financial support to help cover the cost of the trip. The total cost is around \$2200. The half payment deadline (in order to purchase my international ticket) is due **April 1st** . The remainder is due **June 18th** . Funds cover all food, lodging, and transportation associated with the trip, and also the purchase of my plane ticket. I cannot accomplish this task alone, and I am asking for you to prayerfully consider supporting this mission with whatever you feel is appropriate – I will be grateful for every bit, even the smallest amount.

If you would like to support the mission financially, please make checks payable to **Restore Haiti** and return it to me with the Response Card in the enclosed envelope. Any funds raised above my base trip amount will go toward covering other costs associated with the trip (i.e. supplies and evangelism/discipleship materials).

Romans 15:24 "When I go to Spain . . . I hope to have you assist me on my journey there."

Thank you for your time and consideration, your support is greatly appreciated!

Sincerely,

<Insert your name here>

P.S. Your support, especially through prayer, is a vital part of seeing lives change during the mission trip. I will contact you within two weeks to see if you have any questions and if you would like to support this venture through prayer or finances.

Are you a returning Team Member – Here is a sample Letter from One of Our Restore Haiti Team Members to help you.

To my Friends and Family-

As many of you know, I had a surprise opportunity last spring to travel to Haiti, serving in the wonderful community of Morne Oge in Jacmel, alongside the organization of Restore Haiti. I knew after two days of being there that I would go back again. There was an immediate connection for me with the people, and I felt such purpose and satisfaction serving there that I can't quite put into words. (but I will do my best if you want to chat further:) Upon return to the States, I found myself reading books about Haiti's history, political and economic woes, and any articles I could find on the subject. I presented to my local Rotary about my trip and began a language program to learn Haitian Creole, so that the next time an opportunity came along, I would be better prepared to communicate with my new friends.

Well, the doors have opened and I hear Jacmel calling me back! I will be traveling again with Juli Wendt who is the Director of Team Training and Support for Restore Haiti. She is a wealth of knowledge and beautifully gifted at what she does. Her love for the people of Haiti is contagious! She, along with a team of eight others from her church, plus me will depart on Sunday, February 15. (perfect timing for winter break!) Yes, that is six weeks away.....and yes, I am asking for you to prayerfully consider supporting me in this mission:)

Some have asked why I want to go back. Very simply, *this is a ministry I feel compelled to do*. Haiti is the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere and in great need of willing people to provide the education, medical care and resources to find its citizens thriving again. Ask our government officials in charge of distributing relief funds to countries in need, and they will tell you that faith-based organizations all over the world are managing that task best, not corrupt governments more interested in lining their own pockets. Restore Haiti is an organization I feel I can trust, because I have seen what they are doing in Morne Oge. In short, I have been blessed with the time and resources to impact the lives of adults and children "in my backyard" for good.

While in Haiti, I will work on a building project in progress for a family in need of a safe place to live. I will help make and serve lunch to three hundred plus kids daily, alongside several super-powered Haitian women who run the feeding program with perfect efficiency! Just recently, I learned that my twenty-one years of nursing experience may be put to good use in a village clinic, and I am super excited to see how this development will unfold. I will hug, hold, play with, and share lollipops and my cellphone with some of the most beautiful and happy children I have ever seen. Oh yeah, and I will get on the spot language training from seven year-olds!

I would love to find out that in reading this letter, your interest in getting involved in something like this was sparked. I used to think that serving and working in a third-world country was for "other people." I wondered how my family would survive without me? (they were *just fine, thank you very much*) I wondered how in the world I would raise the funds to go, and then I watched my church (shout-out to all my Lighthouse peeps!) send more than 50 people all over the world to serve in a year's time!! So, my family, church family, friends and colleagues at school.....when you are ready for a life-changing experience, come and talk to me! Thank you first for taking time to read this letter and then for considering financial support. I need your prayer power when I am gone, so don't forget- February 15-23 !

Wendy S.

Sample Response Cards

[Make copies of this sheet and cut to include a Response Card with each Fundraising Letter along with a self-addressed, stamped envelope to be mailed to each potential donor.]

Yes, I would like to support this mission and bring hope and healing to others in need!

[] I will begin praying now for effective ministry to the nationals

[] I would like to give a gift of \$_____

Please apply this gift toward the trip of (missionary's name):_____

My Name:_____ Address:_____

City:_____ State:____ Zip:_____ Email:_____

Home #:(____)_____ Work #:(____)_____ Cell #:(____)_____

I would like to receive updates on ministry events and impact: [] Yes [] No

Method of Giving: [] Check [] Cash [] Cashier's Check

Mail To: Restore Haiti PO Box 680278 Franklin, TN 37068

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[] I would like to give a gift of \$_____

Please apply this gift toward the trip of (missionary's name):_____

My Name:_____ Address:_____

City:_____ State:____ Zip:_____ Email:_____

Home #:(____)_____ Work #:(____)_____ Cell #:(____)_____

I would like to receive updates on ministry events and impact: [] Yes [] No

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