



INSTITUTE FOR  
INTERNATIONAL  
MEDICINE

## Building Financial Support Through the Mail

- \* On the average, \$2500 can be raised through well-written letters sent to about 75 people who know you: family members and friends.
- \* Spread the word widely; don't limit the letters to friends and family.
- \* Send thank-you letters for every financial gift. Sometimes "thank you" notes will even bring follow-up gifts.

### Sample Fund Raising Letter

Dear Family and Friends,

Greetings! I hope this letter finds you and your family well. I am now in my **\*\*number\*\*** year of medical school/residency. As I finish my training, I have the opportunity to serve in **\*\*Country\*\*** through INMED - the Institute for International Medicine ([www.inmed.us](http://www.inmed.us)).

On **\*\*Date\*\***, I will be departing on a medical mission to **\*\*Country\*\*** for **\*\* weeks**. The purpose of this trip is two- fold; to further my education in medicine and to provide medical care for these people, many of whom have never seen a doctor. We will be treating many children suffering from **\*\*disease names\*\*** as well as adults with **\*\*disease names\*\***. I will be working alongside American doctors who have lived and served in **\*\*Country\*\*** for years. I anticipate that this experience will help give me a vision for future medical service.

My work in **\*\*Country\*\*** is being funded entirely through donations. Contributions are tax deductible. You can make your check payable to INMED and mail in the accompanying envelope to INMED, 2340 E. Meyer Blvd., Building 1, Suite #338, Kansas City, MO 64132-1100. Please include your email address with your donation. You will receive a tax-deductible receipt for each gift via email, if available. I thank you in advance for your financial support and encouragement. I look forward to sharing with you about my experience when I return.

### How local congregations can help raise financial support

#### Give official blessing or sanction

- \* Provide letters of endorsement on congregation stationery
- \* Let individuals share with the congregation in services

- \* Host informational meetings about the trip

### **Publicize the trip**

- \* Information in the congregation's monthly newsletter
- \* Inserts in the weekly bulletin
- \* Call attention to those that leaving for or returning from a trip

### **Provide direct financial support**

- \* Provide partial funding from the congregation's budget
- \* Help in writing and mailing a support raising letter

### **Organize fund raising events within the congregation**

- \* Auction off 6 hours of the trip participant's time
- \* Hold dinner/auction of baked goods
- \* Auction of baked goods

### **Other ideas**

- \* Car Wash: Sell car wash coupons
- \* Organize dinners or dinner theaters and sell tickets
- \* Hold giant garage/rummage sale
- \* Sell barbecue
- \* Organize and teach a basic community health care class
- \* Find a restaurant that will donate part of the cost of a meal