

Dental Community Fellowship Fundraising Letter

We are very excited that you are going to be joining us for our upcoming dental mission trip. We understand that fundraising can be a stressful idea to most people but with a little bit of work you will probably be surprised by the response of your friends and family. Remember, you are going to do a great work by serving people in need and you are giving others the opportunity to be involved in the impact that you will have.

Here are some reasons why people give and things to keep in mind as you prepare to draft your letter and speak with people in person:

- People give when they feel informed.
Think about...why am I going? How will the money be used? How can others be involved?
- People give because they believe their gift will change lives.
Help them understand how their gift will impact the people of your trip country.
- People give if you make them feel as much a part of the trip as those going.
Communicate with them before, during, and after the trip. They need to know that you are depending on their support.
- People give when they see that you are committed to this and enthusiastic about it!
People are excited to see others with a passion and are then inspired to support them.

To begin the fundraising process, prepare a list of approximately 50 potential financial partners to whom you would like to send a support letter. Keep in mind that your prayer partners will be an important part of your team, even if they do not support you financially.

Types of communication include:

- One-on-one conversations
- Letter writing
- Keeping the partnership team updated
- Follow-up and thank you after trip

BEFORE YOU MAIL YOUR LETTERS...

Send self-addressed stamped envelopes along with your letters. This increases the potential for them to be sent back! You will have your checks sent to DCF (PO Box 81135, Charleston, SC 29416) and you will be updated with a list of your donors so you can send thank you notes.

Please DO NOT have supporters write your name on the memo line of the check. They will include a slip with your name when they mail in their gift. If you would like further assistance or have questions contact DCF Administration at dentalcommunityfellowship@gmail.com

Sample Support Letter
(Date)

Dear Friends and Family,

Begin with some personal remarks about school and your life in general.....

I am writing to tell you about a wonderful opportunity I have to participate on a dental mission trip in the Spring of 20___. Dental Community Fellowship (DCF) is a nonprofit organization at the Medical University of South Carolina which desires to impact healthcare by following Biblical principles. They provide dental students with opportunities for international service in underserved communities, as well as personal spiritual growth. DCF is sending a mission team to _____ from March ____ to _____.

The majority of our time in _____ will be spent in _____ community. During our time there we will be utilizing portable equipment to staff a clinic to treat a wide variety of dental problems including extractions, fillings and cleanings. In addition, we will be visiting schools in the community to educate children on the importance of oral hygiene. We will also be offering eyeglasses and sunglasses in our eye clinic.

I am extremely excited about the opportunity to have an impact in the lives of people in _____. I am anxious to put my dental training and education to work in a place that greatly needs it. For me, this trip is the perfect opportunity to combine my passion for healthcare with my desire to help those in need.

In order for me to attend the trip I am responsible for raising support. The total cost is (INSERT PRICE) per person which covers travel, lodging, meals, etc. If you would like to be a part of my financial support for the mission trip, any help would be greatly appreciated and is tax deductible. Please complete the information on the enclosed slip to indicate your donation is to help me. A return envelope is enclosed for your convenience.

Many heartfelt thanks and blessings to you,

(Signature)

_____ I wish to help offset the cost of the mission trip by making a contribution.
Please make checks payable to: "Dental Community Fellowship" and mail along with this sheet
in the enclosed envelope.

Team Member (Fill in with your name before you send it)

Donors Name:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

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