

Funding Tips

The Apostle Paul requested, received and acknowledged support in his missionary work:

- *"I plan to do so when I go to Spain. I hope to visit you while passing through **and to have you assist me on my journey** there, after I have enjoyed your company for a while"* Romans 15:24
- *"I have received full payment and even more; **I am amply supplied**, now that I have received from Epaphroditus **the gifts you sent**. They are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God. Philippians 4:18*
- *I may not be a trained speaker, but I do have knowledge. We have made this perfectly clear to you in every way. 7 Was it a sin for me to lower myself in order to elevate you by preaching the gospel of God to you free of charge? 8 I robbed other churches by **receiving support from them so as to serve you**. 9 And when I was with you and needed something, I was not a burden to anyone, for the brothers who came from Macedonia supplied what I needed. I have kept myself from being a burden to you in any way, and will continue to do so. 2 Corinthians 11:6-9*

It follows that we should not think it out of place for us to do the same. This not only helps raise the funds for ministry, it also builds a network of friends to pray for the team and in fact, be partners.

Here are proven tips used by previous teams to reach friends and family with the message of Uganda ministry:

- Make this matter of first importance in your own daily prayers, take this need to God (when the money comes from Him, it is HIS trip. If you provide all the funds, it can very easily become YOUR trip). This is not to say you cannot self-fund, it is just necessary to fully embrace the idea that this is not a vacation you are paying for along with all the comforts of a 5 Star resort, it is a mission trip where creature comforts and exact time schedules are often meager at best. God is sending the team to do His work, in His time, in His place, done His way. Be thankful in all circumstances. 1 Thessalonians 5:18 &c James 1:2-4
- Make a written list of friends, family, neighbors, churches, and others that have an interest in you and an interest in the work of the Lord (experience has shown that between 35 and 65 contacts are sufficient to raise the funds for ministry in Uganda)
- When you write
 - ▶ Review sample letters to see what others have said previously
 - ▶ Explain where you are going and why
 - ▶ Detail when you will be going and with whom
 - ▶ Do not be shy in asking for financial help
 - ▶ Ask for prayer and state that all who say they will pray and/or give financially, will receive a prayer calendar prior to the team departure - ask for their legibly printed email address if you do not already have it
 - ▶ Offer to talk with them about this should they desire
 - ▶ It is acceptable to photocopy many letter and then handwrite the recipients name at the beginning
 - ▶ Include ACTI endorsement letter and you may or may not want to include "*Are Short Term Missions Worth The Cost?*"
 - ▶ Include the return envelope and there is no need for you to put a stamp on it.
- Purchase commemorative stamps to use on your envelopes as these attract the eye to your letter and it will most probably be opened first
- Finally, I always take my appeal letters to the Post Office for mailing. I sit in the parking lot and hold them in my hands and pray over them before taking them inside for mailing. I ask God to show me favor with those who receive them
- If your first mailing does not produce sufficient funds, then create a second list with around 25 more possible supporter to mail to. Pray some more!
- Use a standard #10 (business size) envelope to mail the items below
- Contact me if you need more materials at Bhayes409@aol.com

A mailing piece consists of the following with #s 2 - 4 **provided by ACTI and included with this material**

1. Your personal letter
2. A copy of the ACTI endorsement letter with "*How Funds are Used*" on the back
3. A copy of "*Are Short Term Missions Worth the Cost*" and "*The 'Facing Change' In Missions*"
4. A pre-addressed return envelope which contains information on ACTI financial accountability and provision for your teams ministry dates, your name, and donors information.

RETURN ENVELOPE INSTRUCTIONS

Below is an example of the inside of the return envelope to include in the letters your mail. This shows where you should insert the trip dates and your name. Then fold the flap back (so this information below is seen) These are #9 envelopes and will fit in a standard business envelope (#10) without being folded in half. This envelope, with up to three sheets of regular paper, weighs less than one ounce, and requires only one First Class stamp.

Top Inside flap of envelope

The Africa Christian Training Institute (ACTI) ensures Financial Accountability by the following:

- Governing Board: ACTI officers and board members...
 - Are personally involved in third world ministry and understand the issues associated with such ministry
 - Serve without remuneration and pay their own expenses to attend the annual ACTI board meeting
 - Approve the ACTI/ACTM working budgets and review the annual financial reports in the USA and from Uganda
- Bookkeeping is done by a Certified Public Account with commensurate integrity and accountability
- Funds received are used as designated by the donor to underwrite ministry in Uganda. Funds are raised for teams and/or ministry projects and not individuals as per IRS rules
- Administrative Costs are generally limited to less than 1% of funds received by ACTI and most of that supports staff in Uganda (ACTM). All functions of ACTI in the United States are handled by volunteers
- ACTI is recognized by the IRS as a 501 (c) (3) Tax Exempt Organization and gifts to ACTI are tax deductible. Africa Christian Training Ministries (our Uganda arm - ACTM) is a recognized Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) registered by the government of Uganda

ACTI prefers to receipt contributions via email. To facilitate this, please include your legibly printed email address below. The IRS does not require a receipt for contributions of less than \$250.

Bottom inside of envelope

I/we would like to support the Uganda Short-term Mission team and the team member listed below:

Team ministry dates May 27 - June 11 Team Member Mary Smith

I/we will commit to pray for the team as they prepare for the mission trip, and every day while they travel and are in Uganda (A prayer calendar will be distributed prior to the teams departure)

In addition to praying, I/we are contributing \$_____ Checks payable to **ACTI**

Name _____
Please print clearly Email address for team updates & contribution receipt

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

**ACTI Prefers to receipt contributions via email in Adobe PDF format where possible.
If you have email access, please include your email address above. Thank you!**