

Payment and Support Raising Instructions

Mission to the City

A service oriented, evangelistic outreach trip in Minneapolis

Once you have been approved to take part in the mission trip, it is your responsibility to collect and submit the necessary gifts by the deadline. There are two options for giving these gifts.

1. You may give the entire gift amount yourself.
2. You may raise funds from other contributors to cover all or a portion of your gift.
 - *All contributions, including those given by you, are tax-deductible.
 - *Since these gifts are tax-deductible, there can be no refunds once the checks are cashed.

Support Raising

As mentioned above you may ask others to contribute to the mission trip to cover your gift. The most common way of doing this is to send a letter to potential donors (friends, family, co-workers, neighbors, etc.). It's a good idea to include a general overview of what you will be doing on the trip as well as some personal thoughts on why you have been motivated to participate. Enclosed you will find two sample support raising letters. The following paragraph is a required part of the support letter that each missionary sends out for support raising purposes.

“Gifts to support mission trips sponsored by The Urban Refuge Church are tax-deductible. Checks must be made out to The Urban Refuge [unless you are directed to do otherwise by your team leader]. Should the mission trip become over funded the excess funds may be used for a different mission activity to be determined by The Urban Refuge. In the unlikely event that the mission trip is changed or canceled, or the missionary is unable to make the trip, The Urban Refuge will use the collected funds for missions activity to be determined by The Urban Refuge.”

Submitting Funds

As you receive the gifts from yourself and/or others, submit them promptly to your team leader or designated contact, along with a Mission to the City Support Form (see next page). You will need to submit the balance of your fee by the deadline in order to participate on the trip. Keep a running total of what you have raised so far so you can be sure to have the necessary funds submitted before the deadline. Make sure that “MTTC” and the missionary's name are always written in the memo portion of each check.

If you are an Individual Participant, or are coming as part of a non-church team, you will be sending your gifts/checks directly to The Urban Refuge at the address below. If you are coming with a church team you will be submitting your gifts/checks to your team leader or designated contact.

The Urban Refuge Church
Attn: MTTC
5501 Chicago Ave. S.
Minneapolis, MN 55417

Each time funds are sent in they should have a copy of the Support Form (see next page) attached to the gifts sent. If multiple missionaries send funds together please make sure each group of checks are separated and clipped together with the missionary's name and the financial form attached to the gifts.

Mission to the City – Support Form

IMPORTANT - Please mark the week in which you are participating.

July 23 – August 1 July 28 – August 1 _____

Missionary: _____ Individual
 Church/Organization _____

Number of gifts: _____ Amount enclosed: \$ _____ Total raised to date: \$ _____

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 Church/Organization _____

Number of gifts: _____ Amount enclosed: \$ _____ Total raised to date: \$ _____

SAMPLE FUND RAISING LETTER #1

Dear Family and Friends,

I hope this letter finds all of you well. I am writing to share with you an adventure I am going to be involved with this March/summer. I am joining many others from around the country in taking a week of vacation to participate in a service oriented, evangelistic outreach trip in Minneapolis. While many needed mission trips are sent overseas, I'm excited to be doing something to meet the needs of those in the urban areas of Minneapolis.

Why Minneapolis?

The effects of poverty and broken families hit large urban areas the hardest. Over sixty churches have left the city of Minneapolis and moved to the suburbs over the last 30 years. The vacuum created is being filled by many negative spiritual influences. There are 56 Muslim mosques, 44 Buddhist temples and 20 Hindu temples in the city. People are being thrown into confusion and lead astray by the messages these groups are promoting. The necessity for people willing to present the loving truth of Jesus Christ and the eternal hope of his message is tremendous.

The diversity in Minneapolis is astounding, as the city is literally becoming an international harbor. With nearly one half million immigrants/refugees (of which 92% are not Christian) and 138 different languages spoken, the area is home to the largest American population of Hmong (85,000), Oromo Ethiopians (15,000), and Somalis (50,000), as well as the second largest population of Liberians (14,000) and Tibetans (1,200) in the U.S. The largest ethnic immigrant group in the city is the Hispanics with over 110,000. There are also 13,000 international students in the Twin Cities and the largest Chinese student population of any U.S. university system. This is an amazing opportunity to reach internationals without the expense of going overseas.

We will be working with one of our sister churches called The Urban Refuge, a new multi-cultural church in Minneapolis. Throughout the course of the week, we will be doing a variety of activities such as: working with inner-city youth, organizing neighborhood picnics and carnivals in city parks, making meals for the homeless, sports and service outreaches to the international communities, conducting spiritual surveys to help understand where people are at, and spreading joy through creative kindness projects.

The mission trip will take place _____. Would you please pray for me and our team? I would also like to ask if you would prayerfully consider supporting the trip financially. I need to raise \$XXX dollars by _____ in order to participate. The money goes to cover the expenses of the kid's camps, carnivals and the various outreach and service projects that we will be undertaking.

If God should lead you to contribute, please send a check made out to (this will be either your church name or The Urban Refuge) to me at the following address:

Joe Clark
My Street
My City, My State, My Zip

Thank you for your prayers and support. Feel free to call me if you have any questions about the trip.

Joe

"Gifts to support mission trips sponsored by The Urban Refuge Church are tax-deductible. Checks must be made out to _____. Should the mission trip become over funded the excess funds may be used for a different mission activity to be determined by The Urban Refuge. In the unlikely event that the mission trip is changed or canceled, or the missionary is unable to make the trip, The Urban Refuge will use the collected funds for missions activity to be determined by The Urban Refuge."

SAMPLE FUND RAISING LETTER #2

Dear Family and Friends,

I hope this letter finds all of you well and enjoying spring. I am writing to share with you an adventure I am going to be involved with this summer. I am joining about 35 others in taking a week of vacation to participate in a volunteer service trip in Minneapolis called "Mission to the City". While many needed trips are sent internationally, I'm looking forward to digging in and doing some good in "my own backyard".

I am looking forward to many exciting activities throughout our week. We will be doing a variety of activities like operating a day camp for inner-city youth, sponsoring community nights by organizing neighborhood picnics and carnivals in city parks, making meals for the homeless, running sports and service events for the acclimating international communities, conducting spiritual surveys, and spreading joy through creative kindness and service projects.

We will be working with a multi-cultural church in Minneapolis called The Urban Refuge. They have been sponsoring these trips yearly since 1999..

The trip will take place _____. I am wondering if you would consider supporting my efforts by sponsoring the trip financially. I need to raise a minimum of \$XXX dollars by _____. The money goes to cover the expenses of the kid's camps and the various events and service projects that we will be undertaking.

If you would like to contribute, please send a check made out to _____ to me at the following address.

Joe Clark
My Street
My City, My State, My Zip

Thank you for your support. Feel free to call me if you have any questions about the trip.

Joe

"Gifts to support mission trips sponsored by The Urban Refuge Church are tax-deductible. Checks must be made out to _____. Should the mission trip become over funded the excess funds may be used for a different mission activity to be determined by The Urban Refuge. In the unlikely event that the mission trip is changed or canceled, or the missionary is unable to make the trip, The Urban Refuge will use the collected funds for missions activity to be determined by The Urban Refuge."