

## Missional Experience Fund-raising

When committing to a missional experience, cost is always a factor. This resource has been created to help you pray, plan and raise the funds required for this experience.

### Begin With Prayer

Express your total dependence on God. Just like Nehemiah, pray “to the God of heaven” (Nehemiah 2:4) instead of depending on people or your church. God is more interested in your spiritual growth than just meeting a need for funding. He is the One Who is sending you on this missional experience.

### A Team Approach

Know that God’s plan is to use you on this journey, and that HE will provide the resources you need. However, that does not mean you do nothing. God is orchestrating and connecting your need, His timing and other people to accomplish His plan. You will invite a team of financial and prayer supporters that God will use to provide for His purpose. Those who support you are an integral part of the ministry you are participating in. This is a team concept, and those who pray and give are as important as those who travel. While a dozen believers may board a plane to travel and minister, literally hundreds are involved in transforming lives and communities through their pray and financial support.

### Determine Your Own Ability to Donate First

Consider that God is the provider and owner of all the wealth in the world. If you have a sufficient amount of money to donate, then God has already provided without your need to ask others for money. Shared sacrifice is a central element of the missional experience.

### Fund-raising is an Opportunity to Share God’s Mission

From the perspective of the gospel, fund-raising is not a response to a crisis. Instead, it is a way of sharing God’s mission to the world and inviting other people into that mission.

### Think About Who You Want to Invite into God’s Mission

This is a wonderful opportunity for a spiritual conversation. Begin with your family and friends. Include neighbors, schoolmates, club and civic contacts. How about your teacher, doctor or dentist? Focus on the giver, not the money. Paul said in Philippians 4:17, *“Not that I seek the gift itself, but I seek for the profit which increases to your account.”* Paul was not preoccupied with the Philippians’ money, but with their spiritual progress. You are looking for partners in God’s mission.

### Write Letters

Letters should contain a personal greeting and an overview of where you will be going, what you will be doing, how they can pray for you, and what you are hoping God will do through you. Share the missional experience financial goals along with deadlines. Try to keep the letter to one page in length and be sure to proof your work. It is best to include a stamped envelope properly addressed for the person to submit payment. (See Sample Letters).

**Important Note Regarding Donations:** If individuals would like to claim a tax credit for their donation, they must make their check payable to Rolling Hills Community Church. Individual names should never appear on the memo line. In order for contributions to be attributed to your

fund-raising efforts, your individually assigned **reference code** must appear on the checks memo line. Any checks without this number will go into the church's general fund and not be attributed to this trip or your efforts. Also, to ensure timely updates on donations to the team leader, do not accumulate checks and send them to the church in a batch. If a donor directly gives you a check, please forward it to Rolling Hills as soon as possible.

### **Send Funding to Rolling Hills Community Church**

**By Mail:** Simply mail checks (payable to Rolling Hills Community Church) to the church at 3550 SW Borland Road, Tualatin, OR 97062. In order for us to know that the funds are intended to support you, your **reference code** must appear on the memo line. **Remember, if a tax deduction is desired, the check must be made out to Rolling Hills Community Church.**

**In Person:** Checks may also be brought to the church during our regular business hours of 8:30-5:00 Monday through Friday.

Sometimes situations arise late in the preparation stages that prevent a person from participating in the missional experience. We are disappointed when this occurs, but we know that God has a plan even when we don't see or understand it. All donations are non-refundable, regardless of whether or not the member that raised them is able to go on the missional experience.

### **Express Appreciation**

Write a personal thank you note to those who contribute both in prayer and in financial support, and then again after you return from your missional experience. Those who have joined with you in this missional experience will want to hear and celebrate what God did.