

# FUNDRAISING REQUESTS

## Hope Church Dallas Inc.

### INTRODUCTION

The primary means for funding the ministries of Hope Church Dallas Inc. is through the tithes and offerings of regular worship attendees. Through a focus on regular giving to the general fund we accomplish three very important goals.

1. We pay for almost all ministry expenses – even the ones that don't pull heartstrings.
2. We help people become more fully formed followers of Christ as they allow God access to their financial decisions. This is the goal of everything we do.

Please be reminded that every time a person tithes of their first fruits to God that very important things happen in their life and heart.

When I tithe. ...

I remind myself that God is on the throne. No me. Not money.

I reinforce the truth that all I have is from God.

I recognize that God is the owner and I am the borrower.

I make a declaration, "I trust you God to provide."

I am reminded of how much I have been given...

the other 90 percent.

I teach my heart that I am giving back to God what God has already given me.

These things do not happen when I give toward a fundraising effort.

The strategy for teaching and communicating about general giving at Hope Church Dallas Inc. is found in the Annual Financial Discipleship Plan.

We take fundraising requests very seriously because fundraising efforts can easily diminish progress on the two very important goals listed above.

- Fundraising can divert funding away from the foundational expenses (i.e. general budget) which must be paid for all other ministry to happen.

- Fundraising can distract hearts from becoming fully formed followers of Jesus because we build a culture that targets donors instead of training disciples.

We understand that any fundraising effort is a request of Hope Church Dallas Inc. above and beyond regular first fruits giving levels. The benchmark for regular giving is ten percent of personal income. Asking someone to give above this amount is a significant “ask.”

In light of our understanding and broader goals, our inclination is to say no to almost all fundraising requests.

However, we recognize that from season to season there is a need for funding requests beyond general giving.

There are two primary means for fundraising at Hope Church Dallas Inc.

1. Capital campaigns like Debt Free 23
2. Special Missions offerings.

We believe that if every person who attends Hope Church Dallas Inc. began to tithe ten percent of their personal income to the general fund then we would not have a need for any fundraising activities including capital campaigns and special mission offerings.

Other fundraising efforts might include funding for:

- A non-budgeted ministry project.
- A non-budgeted reach-out effort.
- A non-budgeted capital improvement.

Means for funding these areas might include:

- A personal request for funding.
- Offering of an item or service in exchange for donations.
- An event such as a meal, race, or market.

## **FUNDRAISING REQUESTS**

(You MUST read the introduction above and the following policies and procedures before submitting an application)

All requests for fundraising will be considered carefully in regards to other fundraising efforts at Hope based on calendar, in house competition, goal amount, purpose, and long term consequences.

All requests will NOT be considered based on the worthiness of the fundraising project (most all are worthy), but on the impact the fundraising effort will have upon the overall mission of Hope and our ability to inspire investments in the general fund while making disciples.

**All requests require a written application (attached)** to be approved by a staff member and by vote of the Finance Team and the next scheduled gathering. The finance team can approve, disapprove, alter, or table a request. The order of approval does not matter – both are required.

## **FUNDRAISING BOUNDARIES**

Fundraising should NOT be presented in such a way that it would take the place of regular giving.

Fundraising should never overshadow the practice of stewardship. The amount of funds raised, the frequency of fundraisers, or the objectives of raising the funds should be directed toward specific purposes so as not to compete with typical contributions to the church operations. Nor should funds be raised for unnecessary items that may be luxuries when other essential needs in the church are not being met.

Fundraising activities cannot be a vehicle for promoting the business of individual church members or constituents to the exclusion of others. Proposed fundraising activities where a specific individual or individuals have the opportunity to make a profit on items sold, or otherwise promote their individual businesses, will not be approved.

Fundraising activities must be aware of and respectful of the needs, customs, and integrity of church ministries and organizations, and should seek to build partnerships in cooperation with other groups to avoid competition and duplication.

Fundraising guidelines will be agreed upon by the One Board and may be modified from time to time, as is helpful to our mission.

Fundraising proceeds of fundraising activities must be deposited to a church checking account through the Business Manager. These funds will be accounted for as "Designated Funds" to be used strictly for the intent and purpose of the fundraising activity. As such, any donations and/or funds will be considered tax deductible. When disbursements are required, a check will be generated by the Business Manager based on the submission of a requisition/request/receipt. These procedures are intended to protect the mission of the church funding program and to facilitate appropriate accounting and records for all financial transactions. An accounting of the revenues and expenses of approved fundraising activities must be submitted to the Finance Committee by the fundraising chairperson within one week following the activities conclusion.

Fundraising proceeds will need to cover the cost for groups who wish to enter into a contract with a third party to host, co-sponsor, profit share, speak, perform, or present as part of their fundraiser effort.

# Hope Church Dallas Inc.

## Fundraising Project Application

Date of application: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of organization sponsoring: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ state: \_\_\_\_\_ zip code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of fundraiser: \_\_\_\_\_

Date(s) of fundraiser: \_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide a brief description of fundraising project as to goal of fundraiser, planned use of funds raised, percentage of profits going toward goal, etc.

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If a Maintenance Work Order is required, it must be submitted to the Finance Director at least two weeks prior to an event.

Applications should be submitted to church office 90 days prior to event.

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Finance Committee (approved by): \_\_\_\_\_ date: \_\_\_\_\_

Staff (approved by): \_\_\_\_\_ date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return completed form to Debbie Ewing

If you have questions concerning this procedure or filling out the application please send Pam Crosswhite an email at [Pam@Placeofhope.org](mailto:Pam@Placeofhope.org)