

## Fundraising Tips:



The Golden Gate Council of Hostelling International is committed to keeping its program fees as low as possible so that these opportunities remain open and attainable for all groups, especially those with limited resources. Even though Hostelling International's program fees remain the lowest among other residential education programs in the area, groups still need to commit a portion of their trip planning to fundraising.

Fundraising is a great learning opportunity for students. Some group leaders even choose to incorporate fundraising as an integral educational component in the pre-trip activities. If students engage in fundraising for some of their program costs, the experience can give them a sense of fulfillment. Schools have given their students the opportunity to raise funds to pay for their transportation to the hostel and even pay the full program fee.

If performed on a wide scale, fundraising can increase the community's investment in students and schools.

Fundraising can be applied to many types of activities.

### **A-Thon**

- Trash-A-Thon: Students collect pledges of \$1 per bag of trash they pick up during a supervised community, school, or street-litter pick up.
- Read-A-Thon: Students collect pledges based on how many books they have read during a time period.
- Walk-A-Thon: Students are sponsored for miles trekked.

### **Community Yard Sale**

- Organize a yard sale in which students' family donates items to sell.
- Promote the event ahead of time and say what the sale will benefit.
- At the yard sale, put out a jar or basket for additional donations.

### **Auction**

- Consider a live or silent community auction.
- Ask local businesses, artists, and artisans to contribute goods.
- Advertise or list the auction in local papers.
- Enlist service clubs for help, such Rotary, Elks, or Lions.

### **Banquet**

- Students' families donate one dish for a potluck dinner.
- Ask community center, service club, or church to donate space.
- Include entertainment such as a local band.
- Students can talk about why the outdoor education program is important for their education.

**If you have questions, other ideas, or past fundraisers that have been successful, we would love to hear about it! Call 415-863-1444 ext 310 or email [hap@norcalhostels](mailto:hap@norcalhostels).**