

Here are some ideas and tips on how to raise funds for your organisation. Not all the ideas will suit all places and will depend on several factors:

- What do you need the money for?
- How much do you need?
- What resources do you already have?
- Who do you have on your team?

Funding & Fundraising

Funds can be raised by the community (including management and volunteers) by carrying out lots of fun and engaging activities. Funding can also be raised by appeal to funders who may have pots of money for specific projects or activities.

Ideas for community fundraising:

- Weekly/daily collections (this can also be done via Direct Debits and Standing Orders)
- Collection bucket (or a card machine which people can tap to donate)
- Fundraising events eg:
 - Annual fundraising dinner
 - Car wash
 - Football/sports tournaments
 - Family fun day
 - TV appeals
 - Supermarket/local shop bag packing
 - Auction



Charge for some of the services you provide (this can be a suggested donation if you prefer)

- Religious classes (adults and children)
- Ceremonies such as births, weddings and funerals
- Hire of the building/facilities
 - o IT
 - o English language
 - o Homework clubs
 - o Cooking classes
 - o Exercise/Yoga classes



Set up a **sponsorship** programme. This can be to raise money or to pay for specific expenses.

- Sponsor the utility costs
- Sponsor different parts of a build project (eg bricks, windows, prayer mats etc)
- Get sponsors to match donations
- Fun activities like
 - o Sponsored runs/walks
 - o Sponsored silence
 - o Sponsored weight loss



Sell things:

- Cake sales
- Calendars (get them sponsored!)
- Coffee mornings
- Customised mugs/T-shirts etc.
- Donate toys/clothes/furniture
- Plants/allotment veg



Sell your **skills** and donate proceeds.

- Decorating
- Plumbing
- Gardening
- Cooking



Applying for external funding

There are hundreds (if not thousands) of funding bodies out there. Some are private individuals (philanthropists) and many are larger charities and can also include local or central government. It is important to note that most (not all) funders will not fund religious or political activity. This doesn't mean religious organisations can't apply - THEY CAN. Some might require you to be registered with the Charity Commission (not all).

Examples of things you might apply for:

- Youth club
- Lunch club
- Homework club
- Security provisions

Things that will be very difficult to get funding for:

- Prayer meetings
- Evangelising
- Rent for building that is used for religious purposes

Some popular funders:

- Comic Relief
- Children In need
- Awards for All (Lottery)
- Local / Central Gov



Advertise your fundraising events

- Promote the benefits:
 - o Spiritual enlightenment
 - o Health benefits (sponsored run/fast etc)
 - o Community development
 - o Organisational development

Use:

- Posters/leaflets
- Social media
- Website
- Local radio
- Word of mouth
- Announcements before/after sermons
- Local newspapers



TIPS



Tips and Advice

If you are a local organisation, most of your donations will come from people you already know. Make sure you:

- Keep everyone involved (young, old, men, women – everyone!)
- Remember to give as well as take
- Keep everyone updated with progress
- Advertise your events well
- Keep everyone happy
- Get to know more people

“Get a local celebrity to support your cause”



CVS

Many towns have a 'council for voluntary services' – (sometimes known by a different name). They can offer advice on:

- Fundraising/available funding pots
- Charity Governance
- Bookkeeping

Don't forget to claim any tax breaks including **Gift Aid**

- Registering with the **Charity Commission** has many financial benefits. This can include:
 - Reduced business rates
 - Claiming money from the government through Gift Aid (up to 25%)
 - VAT exemptions



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