



# omprakash

Connecting Volunteers, Classrooms & Communities

## Fundraising through Omprakash

Have you built a relationship with one of the Partners in our network, either by volunteering directly or by corresponding from afar? One of our core goals is to help you fundraise more effectively in your home community. You can use our website ([www.omprakash.org](http://www.omprakash.org)) to help teach others about the causes you support, and you can use our registered non-profit, tax-deductible status as extra incentive and reassurance for potential donors.

- All donations can be earmarked for the Partner of your choice, and all donations from citizens of the United States are fully tax-deductible. When a donation is earmarked for one of our Partners, the Partner receives the full donation minus possible bank transfer fees. We do not charge any administrative fee for processing donations.
- You can encourage donors to give directly to Omprakash by donating through Paypal or by sending a check to our address in the United States. See [www.omprakash.org/donate](http://www.omprakash.org/donate).
- Alternatively, you can collect money yourself (i.e., cash), and then personally donate it to us through either of the above options.

### Past fundraising strategies have included:

- Sending letters to people you know (see some examples of our letters at [www.omprakash.org/about](http://www.omprakash.org/about), and feel free to include or personalize any of them).
- Organizing benefit concerts, silent auctions, or other events such as dinner parties. Get someone to perform for free or donate food, then charge people to attend.
- Organizing info sessions/movie showings relevant to what you will be doing, and charge people to attend or ask for donations.
- Car wash, bake sale, etc. — every dollar counts! Consider the profit margin in this approach. For example, buying donuts at \$.50 each and selling them for \$1 each yields a 100 percent profit. You do not have to go big on the product or service in order to generate significant income.
- Seek local corporate sponsorship if your volunteering or service-learning project involves a product. For instance, if your group is building a solar-power charger, you should consider contacting the regional offices of Lowe's, Home Depot, and solar tech companies. Instead of asking for a one-time large sum, you might request smaller, monthly donations; this way, you will be able to demonstrate over time your product's effectiveness and maintain contact with the sponsor.
- Many states have service-learning coordinators, and their web sites offer listings of available grants and awards. Contact your local area's coordinator for information. Start by searching for "learn and serve in (state name)."

Please use our platform share your ideas and strategies with others, and contact us to let us know how we can amplify your efforts. Visit [www.omprakash.org/fundraising](http://www.omprakash.org/fundraising) today!