

Fundraising Tips

Some tips on getting financial support for the Move Your World Conference from your community.

Service Clubs and Local Councils

Look up the contacts for you local Lions Club, Rotary Club, Religious, Church Groups, Band Councils, Town Councils, etc. As soon as possible contact these groups and ask the best way to make a request: attending a meeting in person and/or sending a letter. You can explain your request as “request for financial support to attend a regional youth conference about global issues.”

These groups can be very interested in supporting youth getting involved in their community. Attending a youth conference can be a positive learning experience that lets you learn about what's going on in other places and give you the chance to put your little town on the map as a youth representative. It is important to get in touch as soon as possible because some groups only meet once a month and you don't want to miss out if you put it off.

Local Businesses

Businesses often want requests in writing. Find out the name of the owner in advance and bring a prepared letter with you if you can. If you see them in person ask if they are busy and if you can you can set up a time to talk with them. You will likely have a few minutes of their attention and you can describe the conference using the letter and answers to the questions listed.

Some questions you might be asked:

What is the focus of the conference?

Community involvement, volunteering, environmental sustainability, and social justice.

How many youth are involved?

50

Is the conference is related to a particular religious group?

(it is not)

Who is putting on the conference?

The conference is being put on by the Canadian Red Cross and the Atlantic Council for International Cooperation. The sample request letter describes these two organizations a bit more.

How much money do you need?

Have this information prepared beforehand, look up the flight, bus costs, or gas money that might need to get to the event. Registration is \$150.

Could you please put your request in writing?

Use the sample letter to start, you can customize it with any examples how this event will add to the volunteer work you already do in your community. Proof read it.

Organizing Fundraising Events

This approach might be more effective if you are working with a past Move Your World Participant or if you are fundraising to attend the conference with another person from your community. Fund raising events can be a lot of work to organize and it is important to have a clear plan as to how people attend and to make sure that there is a clear way for them to donate towards your costs.

Holding an evening of entertainment and selling tickets in advance is a good way to understand if your event will make you money. Events can require venues, performers, food, and volunteers and it can be difficult to get everything donated so you profit in the end. Making requests for donations to your event can be a good way to let people know about what you are doing and why you are interested in going to the Move Your World Conference. Make sure you offer to follow up with people after the conference to let them know that your support was appreciated and to tell them what you learn.

Planning to sell 40 tickets at \$7 each to make \$280, is an example a plan that estimates how much money your event will make. If you organize an event and your guests are not confirmed then you might make less money than you expect.

Sample Letter

(Their Address)

Dear _____ or *To whom it may concern,*

My name is _____ and I'm contacting you to make a request request for financial support to attend a regional youth conference about global issues. Move Your World Youth Symposium is a three-day, eye-opening event for Atlantic Canadians aged 15-18. The conference brings together a diverse group of youth in a rural setting to learn about global issues and develop skills in an interactive, exciting educational experience. Presented by the Atlantic Council for International Cooperation and the Canadian Red Cross the 5th annual Move Your World is a opportunity for young people from to share stories and motivation for getting involved in their communities. The registration fee for the event is \$150 and my transportation costs are _____. I am proud to represent (*your town*) at Move Your World and would greatly appreciate any contribution you could make. I will happily get back in touch after the conference to report on the experience.

Sincerely

Your name and contact.