



Fundraising Ideas

There are several ways in which volunteers can help the children of Afghanistan and Pakistan. Below are some fundraising ideas, but please feel free to be creative and develop your own, or add on to anything you see here!

1. Pennies for Peace Drive

Pennies for Peace teaches children the rewards of sharing and working together to bring hope and educational opportunities to children in Pakistan and Afghanistan. A penny in the United States is virtually worthless, but in Pakistan and Afghanistan a penny buys a pencil and opens the door to literacy. Visit www.penniesforpeace.org.

2. Alternative Gift Fairs

Alternative Gift Fairs are held all around the U.S. Locate a fair in your area (just search the Internet and you will find them), and volunteer to be a booth administrator for Central Asia Institute. Alternative Gift Fairs offer shoppers a choice of gifts to honor family and friends while supporting charities and non-profit organizations. Instead of material gifts, you give the gift of hope to children in Afghanistan and Pakistan!

3. Organize a sale and donate the proceeds to CAI

This is where we have seen a lot of creativity. Supporters have held yard sales, bake sales, lemonade stands, home-made craft items, used book sales. The options are endless!

4. Organize a marathon, bike-a-thon, walk-a-thon, etc.

Locate a local route that could be used for your chosen sporting event. Create a Sponsorship Form that includes the purpose of your event, and space for sponsors to include their Name, Address, Pledge Amount, and the Date. Advertise by word-of-mouth, in the local newspaper, in schools, churches, etc. When the event is over, collect the funds and mail them to Central Asia Institute!

You may also just choose a sporting event on your own, and ask people to sponsor you. Use the same Sponsorship Form as above, and when the event is over, collect the funds and mail them to Central Asia Institute!

5. Host a dinner party

Create a small flyer advertising the details of your party and location information and mail them to all the people you know. Encourage them to bring their friends and their checkbooks! Common dinner menus could include cuisines from Afghanistan and Pakistan. For recipes, visit <http://contactpakistan.com/pakfood/> or <http://www.afghan-web.com/culture/cooking/>.

This could also be held during holidays or birthdays, and in lieu of gifts, donations are made to Central Asia Institute!

6. Arrange a book club with *Three Cups of Tea*

Invite friends, family, and colleagues to read *Three Cups of Tea*, and then have a social gathering to discuss the book. Have the availability to accept donations for Central Asia Institute and send the funds to us!

7. Organize a Community Campaign

Get local businesses, schools, churches, and individuals to join together to raise funds for Central Asia Institute. Take all the above ideas, *and your own*, and create a fundraising campaign. Some additional ideas include:

- Change for Change: A spin-off of Pennies for Peace. Display buckets or jars in businesses where people can drop change into, not just pennies.
- Have art students (or anyone) create a card that can be given to local businesses. When customers check out, ask if they'd like to donate \$1 and have them put their name on the card and display all of the cards in the business. We have seen people create Tea Cards (pictures of tea pots), and Book Marks.
- Raffles: Have local businesses donate products or service and raffle them off.

The options are endless, and we invite your creativity! Thank you again for your incredible support and for making a difference and giving hope to children a half a world away.