

## **Giving Toolkit: Ways to Help Grocio Prado Grow!**

Hosting a fundraiser is a dynamic way to build morale. By facilitating activities that bring friends, family, co-workers, classmates and neighbors together you are able to accomplish great things to help other communities in need.

### **Here are some tips to get you started:**

#### **What can I do?**

- Choose an event that you and your friends will enjoy doing, and take into account the resources available to you
- Add extra fundraising ideas to increase the total you raise, such as raffles or auctions
- If you've set yourself a big target, why not break it down into bite size chunks with a number of different fundraising activities?
- Be creative – try and give people something fun and original for their money

#### **Timing is everything**

- Think about the best time to hold your event
- Check the calendar for any clashes
- Make sure you choose a date which allows you plenty of time to prepare!

#### **Location, location, location**

- Pick a suitable venue for your event. It should be the right size for the number of people coming and have the correct facilities
- Keep your costs down; think about any venues you know which will be free, or let the venue owners know that you are raising money and awareness for a great organization that is truly changing lives

### **FUN-draising Ideas:**

#### **Wine and Cheese Tasting**

- Host an evening event to educate your friends and family about the efforts of Bemelsa
- Make an ask for financial sponsorship
- Remember...offer food and wine, they will come!

### **Halloween Party**

- Host a party and ask guests to dress festively.
- Ask for a donation to enter in a costume contest, pumpkin carving or bobbing for apples

### **Golf Tournament**

- Advertise between friends and the workplace
- Ask your local golf club to donate a couple of hours of green time
- Build multiple teams and ask for each participant to pay an entry fee

### **Casual Day**

- Get your boss on board and sell passes to your co-workers for a casual day to be used any day of the week
- Remember...everyone loves a dress down day

### **Health Event**

- Ask a local yoga teacher to volunteer an hour to teach you friends or office mates some relaxation techniques
- Ask for participants to make a donation

### **Special Delivery**

- Purchase flowers in bulk from a local florist
- Sell flowers during your lunch break at the office

### **Bake Sale**

- Sell whole cakes or even cookies/muffins individually
- Can be done at a social event or even at the office

### **Dance for Dollars**

- Ask local dance teacher to donate an evening of lessons
- Invite your friends and learn a fun routine, ask for participants to donate

### **Casino Night**

- Host an evening of friendly wagers, where all buy ins are directed to Bemelsa

### **Ping Pong Tournament**

- Ping Pong just isn't for college dorm rooms these days, invite your family and friends over to see you reigns supreme as the 'King of the Pong' (costumes encouraged)
- Have each team buy in to play

### **Challenge Hike/Run**

- Independently fundraise asking friends and relatives to sponsor you in a challenging physical event
- Be sure they know you are running/trekking for a good cause

### **Fashion Show**

- Partner with local shops to advertise their merchandise and promote your mission
- Charge an entrance fee with all proceeds going to Bemelsa

### **Karaoke Party**

- Ask for a local Karaoke Venue to donate an evening with the DJ
- Request all singers to donate \$5 per tune

### **Loose Change**

- Ask for local restaurants and shops to leave a container by their checkout stand to provide the opportunity for people to donate their loose change
- Be sure to provide information from the Bemelsa website so individuals know where their spare change is going

**\* ALWAYS REMEMBER TO SAY THANK YOU!!!**

### **Don't Forget to Publicize Your Mission:**

- Publish articles in your local free press
- Publicize specific Bemelsa Programs that you are passionate about
- Spread the word online! With tools like Facebook, Twitter and other social networking sites, we have the opportunity to communicate differently with friends, family and colleagues. It can change the way you fundraise too!

- Become a fan of our official Facebook page
- Post what you're doing on our wall
- Use your own status updates to let friends know what your up to in your community
- Tell people about our Facebook page and send them the link

**Utilize Our Resources:**

- Pictures
- Brochures
- Business Cards
- PowerPoint Presentation
- Website

**Please Contact Executive Director Julie Bryant if you have any questions regarding current programs or fundraising activities.**  
[jbryant@bemelsa.org](mailto:jbryant@bemelsa.org)