

Grace Centers of Hope

Resource Development Philosophy

Purpose

Grace Centers of Hope believes that the process of developing resources is a ministry in as much as our work with and on behalf of homeless and addicted men, women and children.

As a result, Grace Centers of Hope is committed to the practice of resource development in a manner that recognizes we are absolute owners of nothing; rather, we are stewards of all we receive and we must use such resources responsibly in our work of service to others and for the Kingdom of God.

In today's highly demanding and competitive field of development, Grace Centers of Hope understands that ours is a higher calling, meaning that we must maintain a well-grounded philosophy that ensures effective, God-honoring resource development.

Resource Development as a Ministry

At its core, the ministry of resource development is really a process of creating opportunities to involve God's people in God's work. Given this definition, Grace Centers of Hope and its Board of Directors, staff and volunteers will:

- Adhere to the Biblical Principles for Stewardship and Fundraising as developed by the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (see Attachment).
- Follow the Code of Ethical Principles and Standards of Professional Practice as well as the Donor Bill of Rights developed by the Association of Fundraising Professionals (see Attachment).
- Earnestly pray that God would "stir the hearts and minds" of our supporters to participate in meeting the needs of the homeless, addicted and abused.
- Effectively and truthfully communicate the needs of those who will benefit from our ministry and offer opportunities for supporters to become involved through prayer, personal giving and volunteering.
- Seek resources only which are necessary for accomplishing the mission of Grace Centers of Hope.
- Minister to our supporters by:
 1. Assisting them in developing a worldview and realistic understanding of homelessness and addiction.
 2. Sharing with them lessons learned from and values held by, the poor.
 3. Encouraging their own personal spiritual growth by sharing how God is at work in the ministry of Grace Centers of Hope and the world which we live.
 4. Providing them with the opportunity to exercise the gift of giving through fundraising venues such as personal solicitation, direct mail, special events and planned giving activities.

- Demonstrate good stewardship in our use of the resources available for fundraising by:
 1. Seeking the best cost/return ratio in our resource development efforts.
 2. Exercising our best professional judgment in determining how much to invest individual resource development effort and in overall allocations between donor acquisition, cultivation, and education.
 3. Maintain an attitude of openness and transparency in sharing information about our overall resource development program.
 4. Holding ourselves accountable to our donors, beneficiaries, external agencies, and the general public.

Philosophy of Financial Support

Believing in God's sovereignty and loving grace, Grace Centers of Hope will not accept government funding. All finances are generated through the faithful support of God's people as he moves in their hearts to give to this ministry. As the Lord blesses and the Holy Spirit moves, this ministry will be funded and grow to the fullest extent of God's will and plan. Grace Centers of Hope rests on a foundation of faith and is totally dependent on God's provision in all areas of mission work.

APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SEPTEMBER 2004