

Have a Fundraising Plan

Fundraising Plans are Crucial

Fundraising is one of the most difficult aspects of sustaining an afterschool program. Whether you're going to sponsor your own Afterschool Meals Program, or partner with another organization to sponsor you, it will be very important to:

- Incorporate AMP into your fundraising proposals. Let potential funders know you're using these funds to strengthen the impact of your program.
- Have a well thought out fundraising plan and be able to articulate it clearly to potential funders and Afterschool Meals Program partners.

If you've decided to partner with another organization for your meals, it's going to be crucial for you to have a strong, well thought out fundraising plan to demonstrate your sustainability when approaching potential Afterschool Meals Program sponsors or funders.

You should at the very least be able to articulate that you have some confidence, grasp and understanding of what you're doing, why your approaching them, and what you're hoping to accomplish.

Fundraising Plans and Community Partners

If your capacity doesn't seem strong enough to become your own sponsor, having strong community partners and incorporating them into your plan will strengthen your position when approaching potential funders and Afterschool Meals Program sponsors.

If your long-term goal is to provide your own meals, these partnerships can help increase your capacity for the future.

Community Partnership Examples

Churches might be able to supply transportation for meals and/or volunteers to help serve meals and assist in your after school programs.

A local waste management company might be willing to donate time to pick up trash from your sites. Small surplus and supply stores might provide you with some free materials and supplies for your programming.

A local bookstore might be willing to donate reading materials. Libraries are also great partners in afterschool programming.

A local Chamber of Commerce or business alliance might want to sponsor an initiative to help strengthen your programming.

The more people involved in strengthening your capacity, the better your position is going to be with future and potential Afterschool Meals Program sponsors. Seeking a vended meal agreement and partnership with a local school district or existing meal sponsor will be much easier if you have the ability to convey some of your information.

Moreover, these alliances make your organization more attractive to potential funders because it shows a willingness to focus on your programming while building strong community relationships in the process.

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Fundraising Plans and Being Your Own Sponsor

Even if you're going to be your own sponsor, incorporating your Afterschool Meals Program budget into your fundraising plan can make you more attractive to potential funders. It shows a commitment to sustainability, and a willingness to give your afterschool program as much support as possible.

It's a powerful tool that conveys to potential funders that you're leveraging as many community resources as possible and giving your children every opportunity available.