



FUNDRAISING HANDBOOK

THANK YOU FOR CHOOSING SAMOS VOLUNTEERS

We are delighted to have your support. Without the support of our fundraisers and donors, we would not be able to continue our work on Samos.

Samos Volunteers has been supporting the refugee and migrant communities on Samos since 2016. We offer services to people at every stage of their time on Samos, from creating Emergency Packs of dry clothes for people just arrived on the island, to long-term language education and social integration. We place dignity, equality and agency at the forefront of everything that we do.

With the opening of the Closed Controlled Access Centre in late 2021, the needs of the communities have changed, and access to daily life outside of the camp has become more restricted. Samos Volunteers stays open, adaptable and respectful in our work, ensuring everyone has access to our services.

We know organising fundraising activities is a commitment. It can take time, effort, and creativity. However, It is also fun and immensely satisfying, which makes it all worthwhile. Whether you're new to fundraising or a seasoned pro, we want to make your experience as exciting and rewarding as possible. We hope this fundraising handbook will help you on your way.

Thank you for supporting Samos Volunteers. Thank you for standing in solidarity with people on the move in Samos.

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INTRODUCTION



WHO IS THIS DESIGNED FOR?

Outgoing volunteers who will continue to support SV after they have left the island.

Remote volunteers who aim to contribute to our work without coming to Samos.

Incoming volunteers who want to support SV before they arrive.

USING THE HANDBOOK

Hopefully all the information and ideas needed for your fundraiser are contained here. The SV presentation is a good template to use when talking about SV's work to your potential donor audience: consider printing it off and using it as a double sided handout! The fundraising ideas and success stories are there for inspiration, and the tips will help you stay on track. You can also download our letter template for asking for contributions to your event, and a sponsorship form for offline donations.

GETTING STARTED

Before you start planning your fundraising project, please get in touch with the Communications Coordinator on Samos. They will provide useful insights, answer any questions, help to point you in the right direction and ensure you have up to date information. Do please stay in touch throughout the process!

Email us at communications@samosvolunteers.org

TALKING ABOUT SV'S WORK

SV has a specific style of communicating our work, focused on respect and dignity for our service users.

All guides and templates in this pack are written in this style, so have a look, avoid saviourism, and please email us to ask questions or to get advice on the language to use in promoting your fundraiser.

THANK YOU

Fundraising should be a fun and enjoyable activity, so try not to stress yourself out in the process.

On behalf of everyone at Samos Volunteers, thank you so much for your support!



SAMOS VOLUNTEERS PRESENTATION



Samos Volunteers is a grassroots NGO based on the island of Samos, Greece. We offer a range of services and psychosocial support to people in the refugee and migrant communities.

Our organisation started in 2016 as an emergency response team, but has gradually adapted its role to the changing situation on Samos. We stand today as a focal point among the remaining NGOs on the island.

Samos Volunteers works to instil a sense of normality and restore dignity to people going through the process of seeking asylum.

Recognising that many people who come to us have suffered traumatic past experiences, our community centres, Alpha Centre and Alpha Land, work as safe and comfortable spaces to study, meet friends, and relax outside of the camp confines.

We offer Psycho-Social Support at these centres for the people who come to us. We also provide Winter and Summer Clothing Distributions through our Alpha Free Shop, as well as Informal Languages Education, Laundry Services, a Covid-19 Vaccination Programme, a Women's Space, Employability Workshops, a Running Club, and supporting the Samos LGBTQI+ Group.



SAMOS VOLUNTEERS PRESENTATION



We work alongside certain people from the refugee and migrant communities who choose to volunteer with us and contribute to our programmes. Samos Volunteers counts equal or greater numbers of these Community Volunteers as our External Volunteers. These individuals inform and guide our efforts here, and are hugely important to the way we approach our work.

In a situation where people live in an isolated and restricted camp, receive very little for living expenses each month, and have to work through the cold bureaucracy of the asylum process in Greece, our work remains important to the community on Samos. Through our wide range of services, we aim to support people on the move in Samos in a holistic manner.

We rely heavily on private donations for our work. Without this support, we could not continue our services with the refugee and migrant communities on Samos.

We are determined to stay on Samos as long as we are needed, and we are very grateful for all the support which allows us to do so.



WHY WE NEED YOUR HELP

Samos Volunteers relies almost entirely on private donations. Your support means we can continue to offer our services to displaced people on Samos.



€100

Supplies the recreational activities for our Women's Space for one month.



€200

Allows 10 people to choose their clothes and shoes at our Alpha Free Shop.



€500

Makes 100 Emergency Landing Packs of dry clothes.



€1000

Keeps Alpha Land and our Laundry Station running for a month.

100% OF THE DONATION FROM YOUR FUNDRAISER WILL BE DIRECTLY USED TO RUN THE SERVICES WE OFFER ON SAMOS.

We have been working with the refugee and migrant communities on Samos since 2016, and that is all down to the support of people like you.

Whatever you are able to raise will make a great difference to us.

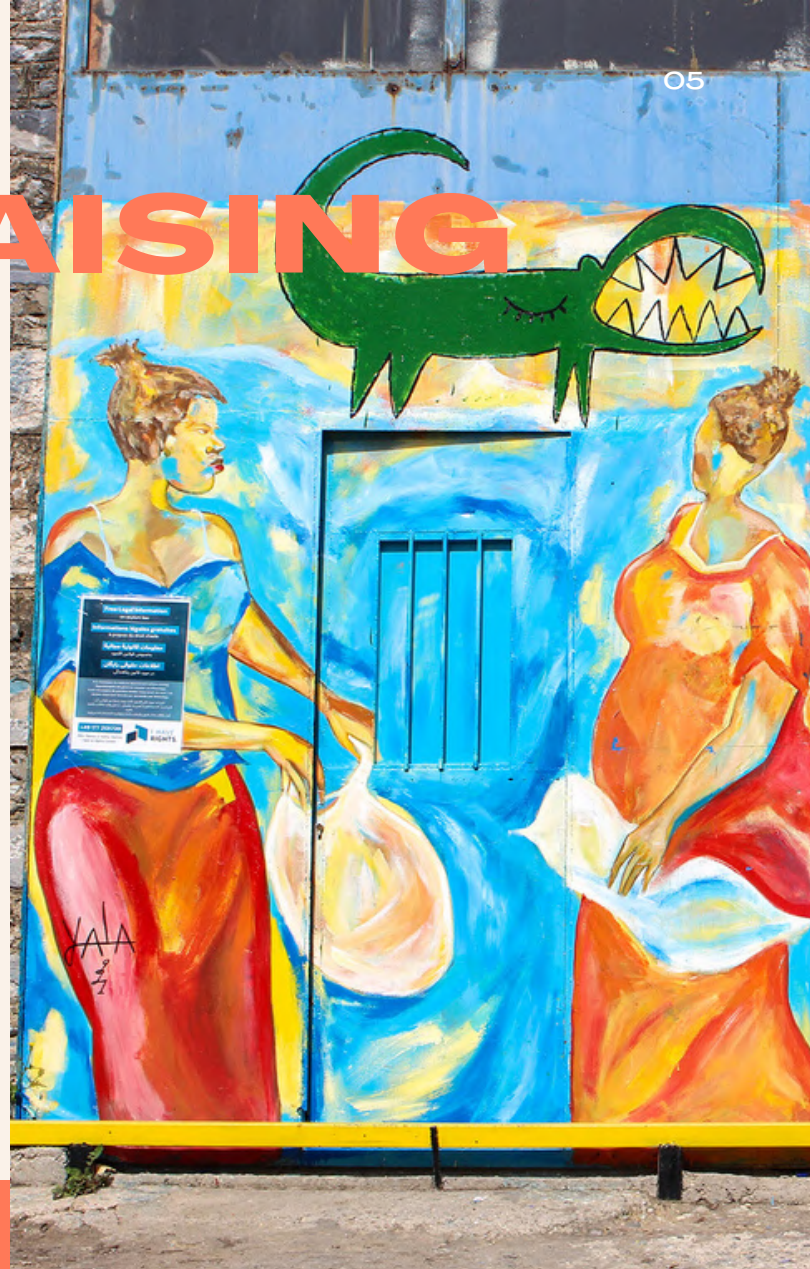
FUNDRAISING IDEAS

ORGANISE A LARGE EVENT 01.

If you are a creative and social person, hosting a fundraising event could be a fun and engaging way to raise money.

You could arrange anything from a small dinner to a music concert. Be sure to get your friends involved in planning to make things easier. Leave yourself lots of time to plan and also promote your event!

See the information below and our Top Tips for help.



The Event

The first step is to decide what exactly you are going to host. Ideas include a BBQ, quiz, charity auction, festival, garden party, sports tournament, and many more.

Details

The most important things here are the location, date and time. Make sure all of these are suited to your event and your audience so you can maximise attendance.

Supplies

Think about the food, drink and whatever else you will need for your event. Reach out to local groups or businesses to sponsor your event with these things, and use our fundraising letter template for help.

Entertainment

Do you know anyone who can perform, or are there local bands you can get in touch with who might play for free? Think outside the box and consider your guests' interests!

Spread the Word

Make sure everyone knows about your event well in advance. Use social media to promote it, get in touch with friends, and create leaflets and posters for your local area.

SV Presentation

Consider holding a talk about SV's work at some point. Feel free to use the information in the pack for this, or reach out to us for more details and resources. Make sure to be honest about where the donations will go.

MORE IDEAS

ORGANISE A SMALL EVENT

02.

Fundraising doesn't have to mean extensive planning and organisation. In fact, there are plenty of more relaxed approaches.

You could hold a bake sale, supermarket bag packing, yard sale, car washing, open mics and more. These type of events are easy to plan, often well attended and very successful as fundraisers!

COMPLETE A CHALLENGE

03.

People love to support someone putting themselves and their abilities to the test for a good cause.

You could consider running a half-marathon, climbing a mountain, skydiving, cycling around a country, taking a vow of silence, shaving your hair, or growing it out!

Stand out from the crowd – choose an unconventional challenge or think of a way you can catch people's attention.

Feel free to use our sponsorship form to help you collect donations for this.

CELEBRATE A SPECIAL DAY

04.

Get your friends and family together and celebrate a special occasion by arranging a fundraiser for Samos Volunteers.

Birthdays, Weddings, Anniversaries, and so on are the perfect occasions for this. It is becoming more and more common for people to set up a fundraiser to mark these events, and so the process has become very simple, intuitive and rewarding.

Setting up a fundraiser on Facebook, JustGiving, or any other online fundraising platform is often simply a matter of following a link and filling out a form. Just share and promote this as widely as possible to make sure your efforts have the greatest impact!



TOP TIPS

MANAGING DONATIONS

Set yourself an ambitious but realistic fundraising goal. This will help keep you motivated towards the target!

Decide how exactly you will raise money for the event. Will you charge for entry? Sell raffle tickets? Collect donations? Sell refreshments?

Match your Donations! Someone matching your money raised will make a huge difference. Many employers run matched giving schemes for their staff. Even if the company you work for doesn't, they may have other programs available.

Samos Volunteers relies heavily on repeat monthly donations from individuals. If you can, see if anyone would be interested in supporting the organisation past the initial fundraiser, or set up a group of likeminded people to do so.

DURING THE EVENT

Make sure to stay relaxed and enjoy yourself throughout. Fundraising should not overwhelm you, and you deserve to celebrate your hard work!

Do take lots of photos and videos during the fundraiser. These are always great for SV's promotional material. If you are taking photos of other people, make sure you get their permission for online use first.

AFTER THE EVENT

Try to individually thank everyone who was involved. This will help to show appreciation for their efforts, and might increase donations too.

Keep people in the loop. Around 20% of donations on platforms like Just Giving are made after the event, so make sure you keep your enthusiasm going as long as possible!



SUCCESS STORIES

POP BOUTIQUE

[POP Boutique](#) is a student project based in Maastricht, the Netherlands. Read about their fundraising below!

"We collect clothes donations from fellow students and colleagues. We then sort, store, photograph, and finally sell them on our [Instagram](#). All of our profits are donated to SV!

"We also organise various fundraising events around the city. We have hosted 7 vintage sales since September 2021 and 2 very successful charity concerts."

"Our last charity concert in May 2022 was organised with another student organization (@maastrichtgoestocalais) and a few ensembles from the Maastricht conservatorium. The joint effort raised €741, and the donations were split between Samos and Calais."

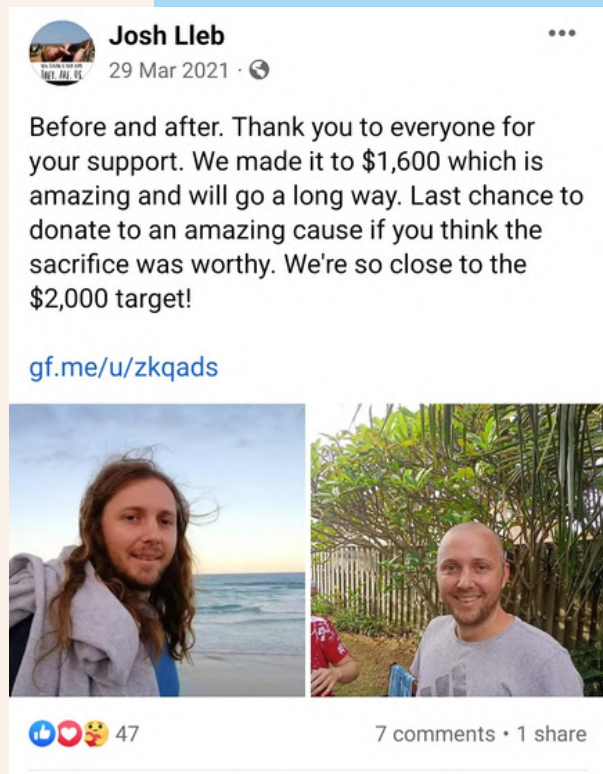


SHAVING FOR SV

Former volunteer Josh Bell raised almost €1400 using [gofundme](#) just by shaving his hair off!

"I had been growing my hair since I volunteered in 2016 and decided to shave it off to raise money in 2021. My long hair was one of my distinguishing features and I felt this would really encourage people to donate."

"Posting the results made people see the sacrifice and got them to donate. Reaching out to all of your channels and giving a concise outline of what people are donating to and explaining the connection to you is really important."



MONEY MATTERS



Now that you've completed your fundraiser, the hard work is over - kick back and relax! All that's left is to get those important donations over to us.

The easiest way to donate is through our online form. Just follow the link below and fill out all the necessary details: <https://www.samosvolunteers.org/donations>

If you would prefer to pay via bank transfer, our details are below:

Non-Profit Organisation	Asociació Samos Volunteers
Legal address	Carrer Sant Josep, 6, 4rt 17004 Girona, SPAIN
Tax number	G55281042
Registration number	30000245230
IBAN	ES36 2100 8133 1601 0029 1008
BIC/SWIFT Code	CAIXESBBXXX
Bank name	La Caixa
Bank address	Carrer de la Creu, 31, 17002 Girona, SPAIN

THANK YOU AND GOOD LUCK



Thank you so much for choosing to support Samos Volunteers. We hope the information in this handbook has been helpful and has inspired you to your target.

Good luck, have fun, and stay in touch!





SAMOS VOLUNTEERS

Contact us

Email Address

communications@samosvolunteers.org

Address

Samos Volunteers
Alpha Centre
2 Dimitriou Petrou
83100, Samos, Greece

Website

<https://www.samosvolunteers.org/>

Social Media



<https://www.facebook.com/samosvolunteers>



<https://www.instagram.com/samosvolunteers/>



<https://twitter.com/samosvolunteers>