

# **SIMPLE BANQUET FUNDRAISING**



## **TIM BOYD**

**BANQUET FUNDRAISING SEMI-PRO**

1. Fundraising (Pages 2-3)
  - a. Embracing Generosity: The Heart of Christian Fundraising
  - b. 10 Reasons to Host a Fundraising Banquet
2. Banquets (Pages 4 – 19)
  - a. Maximize Your Fundraising Banquet: Strategies for Success
  - b. Downloadable Annual Fundraising Banquet Planner
  - c. 5 Key Considerations When Selecting the Date for Your Banquet
  - d. How Much Time Should We Give Our Keynote
  - e. The Crucial Role of the Executive Director at a Fundraising Banquet
  - f. 10 Items that Need to be in the Executive Director’s Speech
  - g. 10 Places to Consider Hosting Your Banquet
  - h. How a Donor Wants to Feel During a Banquet
  - i. Consider These Items When Planning Your Banquet’s Order of Events
  - j. Why Bring in Someone from the Outside to Ask for Money
3. Banquet Add-Ons (Pages 20 – 29)
  - a. Hosting a Pre-Event Reception for Legacy Givers
  - b. The Case for Hosting Two Banquets in One Day
  - c. The Indispensable Role of a Professional Emcee
  - d. 14 Fun Ways to Thank Your Volunteers after a Banquet
  - e. 8 Reasons Why Comedy Fundraisers are More Successful
  - f. Beyond the Banquet: 5 Ways to Nurture Relationships through Post-Engagement Events
4. Questions (Pages 30 – 31)
  - a. I Am Nervous About a Comedian
  - b. 5 Things Every Donor Wants to Know About Your Nonprofit
5. Additional Info for Non-Profits (Pages 32-34)
  - a. Quick Guide to Fundraising for Smaller Non-Profits
  - b. A Fundraising Event at the End of the Year?

## **Embracing Generosity: The Heart of Christian Fundraising**

In the bustling world of nonprofit work, fundraising is often seen as a necessary task—an essential part of sustaining the mission. Yet, for a Christian nonprofit, fundraising transcends mere financial necessity. It becomes a deeply spiritual endeavor, rooted in faith, community, and the transformative power of generosity.

### **The Biblical Foundation of Generosity**

The Bible is rich with teachings on generosity and stewardship. From the widow's mite to the parable of the talents, Scripture encourages us to give freely and joyfully. As 2 Corinthians 9:7 reminds us, "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

In the context of a Christian nonprofit, this principle guides our approach to fundraising. We don't merely ask for donations; we invite our community to participate in a sacred act of giving. It's about more than money—it's about being part of God's work in the world.

### **Telling the Story of Impact**

One of the most powerful ways to inspire generosity is by telling the stories of those impacted by our work. Real-life testimonials bring the mission to life, showing potential donors the tangible difference their support makes.

Consider sharing the story of a single mother who found hope and support through your organization's services or a child who discovered their potential through a mentoring program. These narratives connect emotionally with donors, illustrating the profound impact of their contributions.

### **Engaging the Community**

Fundraising should never be a solitary endeavor. Engaging the broader community fosters a sense of shared mission and collective responsibility. Host events that bring people together—whether it's a community dinner, a charity walk, or a family fun day. These gatherings not only raise funds but also build relationships and strengthen the bonds of fellowship.

Moreover, leverage the power of social media and online platforms to reach a wider audience. Share regular updates, success stories, and specific needs on your website and social media channels. Encourage supporters to share your posts, spreading the message to their networks.

### **Gratitude and Stewardship**

Expressing gratitude is a cornerstone of Christian fundraising. Regularly thank your donors, acknowledging their support and partnership in your mission. Personalized thank-you notes, recognition in newsletters, and special donor appreciation events can all help convey your gratitude.

Stewardship is equally important. Ensure that donations are used responsibly and transparently, providing regular reports on how funds are allocated and the impact they are making. This builds trust and reassures donors that their contributions are making a meaningful difference.

### **Faith-Filled Vision Casting**

Fundraising for a Christian nonprofit is also about casting a faith-filled vision for the future. Paint a picture of what can be achieved with continued support—a new outreach program, expanded services, or a new facility. Show your donors that their gifts are seeds planted in fertile soil, poised to yield a bountiful harvest.

Invite them to join you in prayer for the organization's needs and future endeavors. This not only reinforces the spiritual dimension of fundraising but also fosters a deeper sense of community and shared purpose.

### **Conclusion**

At its core, fundraising for a Christian nonprofit is about more than raising money. It's about embracing the biblical call to generosity, telling compelling stories of impact, engaging the community, expressing gratitude, and casting a vision rooted in faith. By approaching fundraising as a spiritual journey, we not only sustain our mission but also inspire others to live out their faith through acts of generosity and love.

As we embark on this journey together, let us remember the words of Jesus in Matthew 25:40: "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." May our efforts in fundraising reflect this profound truth, bringing hope and transformation to those we serve.

## 10 Reasons to Host a Fundraising Banquet for Your Nonprofit

Hosting a fundraising banquet can serve several purposes and benefits for individuals, organizations, or causes seeking financial support. Here are some reasons why hosting a fundraising banquet might be a strategic and effective approach:

1. **Raise Funds:** The primary goal of a fundraising banquet is to generate financial support for a specific cause, project, or organization. Banquets provide an opportunity to collect donations, sell tickets, or conduct auctions, contributing to the overall fundraising goal.
2. **Build Community Support:** Banquets create a communal atmosphere, bringing together individuals who share an interest in or support for a particular cause. This helps build a sense of community around the organization, fostering a supportive network of donors and advocates.
3. **Increase Awareness:** Hosting a banquet provides a platform to share information about the cause or organization, increasing awareness among attendees. This increased visibility can lead to a broader understanding of the mission, goals, and impact of the cause.
4. **Showcase Achievements:** Fundraising banquets offer a chance to highlight the achievements and successes of the organization. Sharing success stories and milestones helps build credibility and instill confidence in potential donors.
5. **Engage Donors Personally:** Face-to-face interactions at a banquet provide an opportunity to connect with potential donors on a personal level. Building relationships can lead to increased trust and a greater likelihood of continued support.
6. **Demonstrate Transparency:** Transparency is crucial in building trust with donors. Banquets allow organizations to communicate openly about their financial status, how funds will be used, and the impact they aim to achieve.
7. **Celebrate Supporters:** A fundraising banquet is an occasion to express gratitude and celebrate the individuals or entities that have supported the cause. Acknowledging and recognizing donors can encourage continued support and loyalty.
8. **Provide Networking Opportunities:** Banquets bring together a diverse group of people, including potential donors, sponsors, and partners. This creates networking opportunities that can lead to new partnerships, collaborations, and support from various sectors.
9. **Create a Memorable Experience:** Hosting a well-organized and enjoyable banquet can leave a lasting impression on attendees. This positive experience can enhance the reputation of the organization and increase the likelihood of future support.
10. **Promote a Call to Action:** Banquets are an ideal setting to inspire attendees to take action. Whether it's making a financial contribution, volunteering time, or becoming an advocate, the event can motivate individuals to actively participate in furthering the cause.

Overall, a well-executed fundraising banquet can be a powerful tool for resource mobilization, community building, and creating lasting connections with supporters.

## **Maximizing Your Fundraising Banquet: Strategies for Success**

Hosting a successful fundraising banquet requires careful planning and execution. Whether you're organizing an event for a nonprofit organization, a school, or a community cause, the goal is to raise as much money as possible to support your mission. Here are some proven strategies to help you maximize your fundraising efforts:

### **1. Set Clear Goals and Objectives**

- Define specific fundraising goals for the event. Whether it's a monetary target or a specific project you're raising funds for, having a clear objective will give your team and attendees a sense of purpose.

### **2. Create a Compelling Story**

- Craft a powerful narrative that highlights the impact of your organization's work. Personal stories and testimonials can emotionally connect with your audience and inspire generosity.

### **3. Attract High-Value Attendees**

- Identify and invite potential major donors, sponsors, and community leaders who are aligned with your cause. Their presence and support can significantly boost fundraising efforts.

### **4. Offer Unique Experiences**

- Provide exclusive experiences or items for auction or raffle. These can include VIP packages, behind-the-scenes tours, or unique merchandise related to your cause.

### **5. Utilize Effective Marketing**

- Promote your event through various channels, including social media, email newsletters, local media outlets, and partner organizations. Build anticipation and excitement leading up to the banquet.

### **6. Sponsorship and Partnerships**

- Seek corporate sponsorships or partnerships with businesses that align with your mission. Offer attractive sponsorship packages that provide exposure and recognition during the event.

### **7. Live Fundraising Appeals**

- Plan compelling live appeals during the banquet where speakers can passionately advocate for donations. Use multimedia presentations, such as videos and slideshows, to illustrate impact and urgency. Hire a pro (like me!)

### **8. Simplify Donation Processes**

- Make it easy for attendees to donate by offering multiple payment methods, such as online platforms, mobile apps, and traditional methods like checks and cash.

## **9. Create a Sense of Community**

- Foster a welcoming and inclusive atmosphere at the banquet. Encourage networking among attendees and recognize the contributions of volunteers, donors, and sponsors.

## **10. Follow-Up and Acknowledgment**

- Immediately thank attendees, sponsors, and donors after the event. Provide updates on the funds raised and how they will be used. Maintain ongoing communication to nurture donor relationships.

## **Conclusion**

By implementing these strategies, you can increase your chances of raising more money at your fundraising banquet. Remember, the key is to engage your audience emotionally, provide unique opportunities for giving, and ensure a seamless and enjoyable experience for everyone involved. With careful planning and a dedicated team, your fundraising banquet can make a significant impact on your cause.

# ANNUAL BANQUET PLANNER

<p><b>12</b> months before the event</p>	<p>Steps :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="radio"/> From Organizing Committee</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Set Goals/Theme/Budget</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Select Venue</li> </ul>	<p>Target :</p>
<p><b>9-10</b> months before the event</p>	<p>Steps :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="radio"/> Secure Keynote Speaker</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Develop Event Program</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Start Sponsorship Outreach</li> </ul>	<p>Target :</p>
<p><b>6-8</b> months before the event</p>	<p>Steps :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="radio"/> Create Marketing Plan</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Design Invitations</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Begin Ticket Sales</li> </ul>	<p>Target :</p>
<p><b>3-5</b> months before the event</p>	<p>Steps :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="radio"/> Finalize Menu and Catering</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Confirm Logistics</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Coordinate Volunteers</li> </ul>	<p>Target :</p>
<p><b>1-2</b> months before the event</p>	<p>Steps :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="radio"/> Follow Up with Sponsors</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Send Formal Invitations</li> <li><input type="radio"/> Finalize Program Details</li> </ul>	<p>Target :</p>



# ANNUAL BANQUET PLANNER

---

<b>2-4</b> weeks before the event	Steps : ..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Review RSVPs and Ticket Sales ..... <input type="checkbox"/> Prepare Event Material ..... <input type="checkbox"/> Run Final Checks .....	Target : ..... ..... ..... .....
<b>1</b> week before the event	Steps : ..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Confirm Final Numbers ..... <input type="checkbox"/> Conduct Rehearsals ..... <input type="checkbox"/> Pack Event Day Supplies .....	Target : ..... ..... ..... .....
<b>Day of</b> the event	Steps : ..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Setup and Decoration ..... <input type="checkbox"/> Registration and Welcome ..... <input type="checkbox"/> Execute Event Plan .....	Target : ..... ..... ..... .....
<b>Post</b> event	Steps : ..... <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Thank You and Follow Up ..... <input type="checkbox"/> Financial Review ..... <input type="checkbox"/> Review and Debrief .....	Target : ..... ..... ..... .....

## 5 Key Considerations When Selecting the Date for Your Nonprofit Annual Banquet

Choosing the perfect date for your nonprofit's annual banquet is a critical decision. It sets the tone for the event, impacts attendance, and influences overall success. While it may seem like a straightforward task, several factors deserve careful consideration to ensure maximum participation and engagement. Here are five essential aspects to contemplate when picking the date for your nonprofit's flagship banquet.

1. **Avoid Clashing with Major Holidays or Local Events:** Selecting a date that coincides with major holidays or significant local events can significantly hinder attendance. People may already have commitments or may be traveling during these times. Check community calendars and research local events to avoid scheduling conflicts. Additionally, be mindful of religious holidays that might affect attendance among specific groups within your community. My wife is from Nebraska, and you certainly don't want to host your event when the Cornhuskers are playing!
2. **Consider Your Target Audience's Availability:** Understanding the demographics of your target audience is crucial. Consider factors such as the age, occupation, and interests of your supporters. For instance, if your nonprofit serves families, weekends or evenings may be more convenient. If your audience comprises working professionals, consider scheduling the event on a weekday evening to accommodate their schedules. Survey your supporters to gauge their availability and preferences. ([Maybe host a dinner and a luncheon!](#))
3. **Weather Conditions:** Weather can significantly impact attendance, especially if your event is outdoors or during a season prone to extreme conditions. Check historical weather data for your region during the proposed dates and aim for a time when the weather is typically favorable. Alternatively, have a backup plan in case of inclement weather, such as securing an indoor venue or rescheduling the event.
4. **Collaborate with Key Stakeholders:** Consult with your board members, volunteers, and key stakeholders before finalizing the date. Their input can provide valuable insights into potential conflicts and preferences. Additionally, involving stakeholders in the decision-making process fosters a sense of ownership and ensures alignment with organizational goals. Consider scheduling a meeting or circulating a survey to gather feedback and consensus on the best date for the banquet.
5. **Plan Ahead for Venue Availability and Budget:** Popular venues often book up months or even years in advance, especially during peak event seasons. Start researching and securing your venue well ahead of time to ensure availability on your preferred date. Be flexible with your dates if necessary to secure the ideal venue within your budget. Additionally, factor in other associated costs such as catering, decor, and entertainment when planning your budget.

**Conclusion:** Selecting the date for your nonprofit's annual banquet requires careful deliberation and strategic planning. By considering factors such as holidays, audience availability, weather conditions, stakeholder input, and venue availability, you can maximize attendance and make your

event a resounding success. Remember to communicate the chosen date well in advance and leverage various channels to promote and generate excitement for your banquet.

## **How much time should we give to the keynote speaker at our fundraising banquet?**

Super common question. Pretty easy to answer.

If you are flying in a professional, you should give them the amount of time that they tell you they should do. Seriously! haha. Most likely, you haven't keynoted an event before and they have keynoted dozens if not hundreds. He or she has developed an incredibly program that has been refined each time they were able to present it. There are no wasted words in their keynote address. Each story has been painstakingly analyzed, in real time, to see how it supports the overall message. Their opener, closer, and everything in between has been carved into granite by years, or decades, of real life experience. To quote my teens, "let the baker bake." :)

I'm also a comedian, so I always suggest an hour. First, I point out some great things that have already been shared at the event. Then I move into a carefully crafted comedy portion that actually sets up my main story for the evening that, in turn, moves flawlessly into the financial ask. Sure, I can cut it down. But then I wouldn't be giving you my best. After all, most, if not all of us, got into this to help you raise support!

## **Unveiling the Crucial Role of the Executive Director at a Fundraising Banquet**

Fundraising banquets are pivotal events for any organization, serving as both a celebration of achievements and a platform for securing future support. Behind the scenes of these glamorous affairs, lies the indispensable figure of the Executive Director, orchestrating the event with finesse and strategic vision. In this article, we delve into the multifaceted role of the Executive Director at a fundraising banquet, shedding light on their responsibilities, challenges, and contributions to the organization's success.

**Setting the Stage:** Before the first guest arrives and the spotlight is cast on the evening's honorees, the Executive Director is already deeply immersed in the preparations. From conceptualizing the theme and tone of the event to liaising with key stakeholders and sponsors, their strategic input is indispensable in shaping the banquet's trajectory.

**Crafting the Narrative:** A successful fundraising banquet is more than just an opportunity to solicit donations; it's a chance to tell the organization's story in a compelling and emotionally resonant manner. As the chief storyteller, the Executive Director plays a pivotal role in crafting the narrative arc of the evening, weaving together anecdotes of impact, testimonials from beneficiaries, and future aspirations into a cohesive narrative that inspires generosity and fosters deeper connections with the cause. (This is where a professional can help - like me! :))

**Engaging Stakeholders:** At the heart of any successful fundraising effort lies the cultivation of meaningful relationships with donors, supporters, and community partners. Throughout the banquet, the Executive Director serves as the organization's ambassador, engaging stakeholders in meaningful conversations, expressing gratitude for their support, and articulating the organization's vision with clarity and passion. Whether mingling during cocktail hour or delivering a keynote address, their ability to forge authentic connections is instrumental in fostering donor loyalty and long-term engagement.

**Navigating Challenges:** Despite meticulous planning, fundraising banquets are not without their challenges. From last-minute logistical hiccups to unforeseen technical glitches, the Executive Director must navigate a myriad of obstacles with poise and adaptability. Whether it's stepping in to troubleshoot an audio-visual issue or addressing a donor's concerns with grace and diplomacy, their ability to remain calm under pressure sets the tone for the entire event and instills confidence in stakeholders.

**Celebrating Success:** As the evening draws to a close and the final donations are tallied, the Executive Director's role transitions from orchestrator to celebrant. Amidst the jubilant applause and heartfelt expressions of gratitude, they take a moment to acknowledge the collective efforts of the organization's staff, volunteers, and supporters, recognizing that true success is measured not only in dollars raised but in lives touched and communities transformed.

**Looking Ahead:** While the curtain may fall on tonight's fundraising banquet, the Executive Director's work is far from over. Armed with valuable insights gleaned from the evening's interactions and feedback, they pivot their focus towards stewarding donor relationships, analyzing fundraising data, and strategizing for future initiatives. With their unwavering dedication and visionary leadership, they continue to propel the organization forward on its mission-driven journey.

## 10 Items that Need to be in the Executive Director's Banquet Speech

When addressing a fundraising banquet as an executive director of a nonprofit, it's crucial to convey the organization's mission, impact, and goals effectively. Here are 10 items that need to be in the Executive Director's Banquet Speech:

1. **Mission and Vision:** Start by clearly articulating the nonprofit's mission and vision. Explain what the organization stands for and why its work is important.
2. **Impact:** Share success stories and concrete examples of how the nonprofit's work has made a difference in the community or for its beneficiaries. Highlight specific achievements and outcomes.
3. **Goals and Objectives:** Outline the organization's current goals and objectives. Explain what it hopes to achieve in the near future and how these goals align with its mission.
4. **Challenges and Needs:** Be transparent about the challenges the nonprofit faces and the resources it needs to overcome them. This can include financial needs, volunteer support, or specific expertise.
5. **Recognition and Gratitude:** Acknowledge and thank donors, sponsors, volunteers, and supporters for their contributions and commitment to the cause. Personalize the gratitude whenever possible.
6. **Call to Action:** Clearly articulate how attendees can support the nonprofit's work. This could involve making a donation, volunteering their time or expertise, or spreading the word about the organization.
7. **Future Plans:** Discuss the nonprofit's plans for growth, expansion, or new initiatives. Explain how these plans will further the organization's mission and increase its impact.
8. **Partnerships and Collaborations:** Highlight any partnerships or collaborations that the nonprofit has formed or hopes to form. Emphasize the importance of working together to address complex issues.
9. **Financial Transparency:** Provide an overview of the nonprofit's financial situation, including how donations are used and allocated. Assure donors that their contributions will be put to good use.
10. **Inspiration and Motivation:** End on an inspirational note, reiterating the importance of the nonprofit's work and the collective effort needed to create positive change. Encourage attendees to continue supporting the cause.

By covering these key points, the executive director can effectively communicate the nonprofit's mission, impact, and needs, while inspiring attendees to become more involved and supportive.

## 10 Places to Consider to Host Your Fundraising Banquet

The best places to host a fundraising banquet can vary depending on your budget, the size of your event, and the atmosphere you want to create. Here are some options to consider:

1. **Hotel Ballrooms:** Many hotels have spacious ballrooms that can accommodate large gatherings. They often offer catering services and amenities like audiovisual equipment, making it convenient for event planners.
2. **Conference Centers:** Conference centers are designed to host events of various sizes and often offer flexible spaces, catering services, and technical support.
3. **Event Halls:** Event halls or banquet halls specifically designed for hosting events can be a great option. They often provide customizable layouts and amenities tailored to events like banquets.
4. **Restaurants:** Some upscale restaurants have private dining rooms that can be reserved for events. This option can provide a more intimate atmosphere and access to gourmet catering.
5. **Country Clubs:** Country clubs often have elegant event spaces that offer a sophisticated atmosphere. They may also provide catering services and access to additional amenities like golf courses or swimming pools.
6. **Museums or Galleries:** Hosting your event in a museum or gallery can provide a unique and memorable setting. Many museums and galleries offer event rental spaces and may even provide access to exhibits or artwork during the event.
7. **Community Centers:** Community centers often have rental spaces available at more affordable rates. While they may not offer as many amenities as other venues, they can be a budget-friendly option for smaller events.
8. **Outdoor Venues:** Depending on the time of year and your location, outdoor venues like parks, gardens, or waterfront locations can provide a beautiful backdrop for your event. Just be sure to have a backup plan in case of inclement weather.
9. **Corporate Offices:** Some corporations have event spaces available for rental, particularly if your cause aligns with their values or if you have a corporate sponsor.
10. **Historic Buildings:** Renting out a historic building or mansion can add a sense of grandeur and elegance to your event. Many historic properties offer event rental spaces and may have unique architectural features that make for stunning event backdrops.

When choosing a venue, consider factors such as location, accessibility, capacity, amenities, and budget. It's also important to visit potential venues in person to ensure they meet your needs and vision for the event. Additionally, be sure to inquire about any additional costs, such as catering, equipment rental, or staffing fees, to ensure they fit within your budget.

## How Donors Want to Feel During a Fundraising Banquet

During fundraising banquets, donors should ideally feel valued, appreciated, and inspired. Here are some ways to achieve this:

1. **Warm Welcome:** Greet donors warmly as they arrive, making them feel special and acknowledged from the moment they enter the event.
2. **Recognition:** Acknowledge donors for their contributions publicly, whether through speeches, presentations, or visual displays. Highlight their impact and express gratitude for their support.
3. **Connection:** Facilitate opportunities for donors to connect with the cause on a personal level. Share stories of individuals who have benefited from their donations, fostering empathy and a deeper understanding of the impact of their support.
4. **Inspiration:** Inspire donors by sharing success stories, future plans, and the vision of the organization. Paint a compelling picture of what can be achieved with their continued support, motivating them to remain engaged.
5. **Networking:** Provide opportunities for donors to network with each other and with key figures within the organization. Foster a sense of community and camaraderie among supporters.
6. **Entertainment:** Incorporate elements of entertainment, such as live music, performances, or engaging speakers, to create a lively and enjoyable atmosphere.
7. **Gratitude:** Express gratitude throughout the event, whether through personal thank-you notes, small tokens of appreciation, or heartfelt gestures.
8. **Transparency:** Be transparent about how donations are being utilized and the impact they are making. Donors should feel confident that their contributions are making a difference.
9. **Involvement:** Invite donors to participate in the event, whether through interactive activities, fundraising challenges, or volunteer opportunities. This fosters a sense of ownership and investment in the cause.
10. **Follow-Up:** After the banquet, follow up with donors to express gratitude once again and provide updates on the outcomes of the event. Reinforce the sense of connection and appreciation for their ongoing support.



## **Consider These Items When Planning Your Fundraising Banquet's Order of Events**

Planning a fundraising banquet involves careful consideration of various elements to ensure a successful and engaging event. Here's an outline of items to consider when planning the order of events for your fundraising banquet:

### **Welcome and Registration**

Greet attendees as they arrive.

Provide name tags and event materials.

Consider having a registration area for check-ins.

### **Opening Reception**

Allow time for attendees to mingle and network.

Consider having appetizers and drinks available.

### **Opening Remarks**

Welcome attendees and express gratitude for their support

Introduce key organizers and VIPs.

Set the tone for the evening.

### **Dinner Service**

Provide a well-timed break for a seated dinner.

Consider incorporating speeches or video presentations during the meal.

### **Keynote Speaker**

Introduce a guest speaker who can inspire and share the mission.

Ensure the speaker aligns with your cause and resonates with the audience.

### **Testimonials or Success Stories**

Feature individuals who have benefited from your organization's work.

Share impactful stories to connect emotionally with the audience.

### **Live Auction or Silent Auction**

Conduct an auction to raise funds.

Have an engaging auctioneer and compelling items for bidding.

### **Appeal for Donations**

Make a direct and heartfelt request for financial support.

Use videos, personal stories, or testimonials to emphasize the impact of donations.

### **Entertainment**

Include entertainment to keep the audience engaged.

This could be a musical performance, comedian, or other forms of entertainment.

### **Acknowledgment of Sponsors and Donors**

Recognize and thank event sponsors and major donors.

Display sponsor logos or mention them during the program.

### **Interactive Activities**

Incorporate activities that engage attendees.

This could include games, a photo booth, or other interactive elements.

### **Closing Remarks**

Summarize the purpose of the event and the impact of the funds raised.

Express gratitude to attendees, sponsors, and volunteers.

### **Call to Action**

Encourage attendees to continue supporting the cause after the event.

Provide information on how to stay involved or make additional donations.

**Closing Reception**

Allow time for attendees to socialize and network.

Provide light refreshments or desserts.

**Follow-Up**

Send thank-you emails to attendees, sponsors, and volunteers.

Provide updates on the funds raised and the impact on your cause.

Remember to tailor the order of events to suit the specific goals and nature of your fundraising banquet. Flexibility is key, and be mindful of the overall flow to keep attendees engaged and motivated to support your cause.

## **Why bring in someone from the outside to ask for money at your fundraising banquet?**

No one loves your non-profit more than you do. No one has spent more time, energy, and prayer on building and maintaining your non-profit than you. Your heart beats for it and you think about it all day long. Why on earth would you fly someone in to ask for money at your annual banquet?

Here are 3 reasons to hire someone to "ask for money."

**They are experts at inspiring people to give!** Just like you are the professional of your non-profit, a fundraiser is a professional at asking people to support your work. They spend their time, energy, and prayer on perfecting their "ask." For instance, I am currently attending the [Lilly School of Philanthropy](#) which is the premiere institution for fundraising professionals in the United States.

**They are your biggest cheerleaders!** You are probably pretty humble and just pleased to be able to serve God without any recognition. That's awesome! You can't get up there and hype up yourself. Let someone from the outside talk about how great your work is and how important it is to your community. An outside speaker should not take the spotlight. They should shine that spotlight squarely on your non-profit and the AMAZING work you are doing! This is why I spend just over half of my time talking about your impact in the community and how giving that night will help you all be even more successful.

**They take the pressure off of you.** We all know that planning and executing a banquet is stressful. I've worked with many organizations who spend far more time picking out colors and table settings than they do on the actual program that people are watching. Hiring someone who has done this before relieves the stress of the "show." This is why I work with all my clients well before the banquet to plan out a show that will be great and give them one less thing to worry about. My clients also know that I can handle any odd things that happen during the event (mics, videos, etc). This helps them sleep at night!

These are just a few reasons to hire someone from the outside. The next item to think about is "who" you should hire.

## Consider hosting a Pre-Event Reception for Legacy Givers Before Your Next Fundraising Banquet!

As Christians, we understand the significance of fellowship and the power of gathering together in His name. Within our faith community, we often find ourselves called to celebrate and honor those who have faithfully supported our ministries and endeavors over the years. One beautiful way to acknowledge these legacy givers is by hosting a pre-event reception before your next banquet.

In the Bible, we see numerous instances where Jesus himself engaged in fellowship over meals. He broke bread with his disciples, shared meals with sinners, and celebrated with those around him. In doing so, he demonstrated the importance of community and the profound connections that are formed when we come together around a table.

Similarly, hosting a pre-event reception for legacy givers allows us to create a sacred space where gratitude, fellowship, and celebration can abound. It is an opportunity to express our appreciation for their unwavering support and to deepen our relationships with those who have faithfully walked alongside us on our journey of faith.

Here are a few key elements to consider when planning a pre-event reception for legacy givers:

1. **Intentional Invitation:** Extend personalized invitations to your legacy givers, expressing your gratitude for their support and inviting them to join you for a special time of fellowship before the main event. Make them feel valued and appreciated for the vital role they play in furthering the mission and vision of your ministry.
2. **Warm Welcome:** Greet your guests with genuine warmth and hospitality as they arrive at the reception. Create a welcoming atmosphere where they feel cherished and honored from the moment they step through the door. Consider assigning volunteers or staff members to greet each guest personally and guide them to the reception area.
3. **Meaningful Connections:** Encourage mingling and conversation among your legacy givers. Provide opportunities for them to share stories, memories, and experiences with one another, fostering a sense of camaraderie and connection. You may consider incorporating icebreaker activities or discussion prompts to facilitate meaningful interactions.
4. **Expressions of Gratitude:** Take time during the reception to formally express your gratitude to your legacy givers. Share heartfelt words of appreciation, acknowledging their generosity and the impact of their contributions on your ministry. Consider inviting a speaker or testimonial to share firsthand accounts of the transformative work made possible through their support.
5. **Prayer and Blessing:** Dedicate a moment of prayer and blessing for your legacy givers, lifting them up in thanksgiving and asking for God's continued guidance and provision in their lives. Invite attendees to join together in prayer, uniting in faith and gratitude for the blessings bestowed upon your ministry and community.
6. **Symbolic Gestures:** Consider incorporating symbolic gestures or tokens of appreciation into the reception, such as presenting each legacy giver with a commemorative gift or

certificate of recognition. These tangible reminders serve as lasting mementos of their commitment and dedication to your ministry.

By hosting a pre-event reception for legacy givers, we not only honor their contributions but also cultivate a spirit of unity, fellowship, and gratitude within our Christian community. It is an opportunity to celebrate the blessings of generosity and stewardship while nurturing meaningful relationships that endure beyond the confines of a single event.

As we gather together in fellowship, let us remember the words of Psalm 133:1, “How good and pleasant it is when God’s people live together in unity.” May our pre-event receptions be a reflection of the unity and love that binds us together as brothers and sisters in Christ, inspiring continued generosity and support for the work of His kingdom.

P.S. Or....if you hire me for your event...host a post-event get together and we can all laugh even more and speak about giving!

## **The Case for Hosting Two Fundraising Banquets in One Day**

My friend and mentor, [Mike Williams](#), has worked with countless nonprofit organizations. He is the most rebooked fundraising speaker among Pregnancy Resource Centers in the nation! And he should be! Mike is an incredible guy who LIVES to raise money for God's work for children and families! (Mike is the guy who "discovered" me! That's another story.)

We were recently having breakfast and planning our speaking engagement at the CareNet Conference coming up in September in Colorado, and he brought something to my attention that I had never heard of...and...it's GENIUS!

I am not now convinced that every nonprofit should seriously consider hosting TWO fundraising banquets in one day. Here are the reasons why:

1. Your business people are far more apt to come to something during the lunch hour or at breakfast. Host one shorter banquet during the workday for them.
2. Many of your older donors don't want to drive at night. A banquet during the day works very well for them.
3. People still LOVE the evening banquet to catch up with their friends and truly take time to celebrate what you are doing! You will reach two very different groups of donors that still LOVE giving to your amazing work!
4. You're already working super hard to pull this off, why not add a second outlet to all the hard work that you are doing? Doing two banquets in one day is NOT ADDING twice the amount of work. It's probably not much more work than you are already going to do.
5. You may have someone who couldn't make it at night who could come to the one during the day. Why not give people options and make it harder to miss?

I'm not saying that everyone needs to host two banquets in one day. But I am making the case that you ought to seriously consider it.

## The Indispensable Role of a Professional Emcee in Your Fundraising Banquet

In the grand tapestry of event planning, every thread holds significance, and the role of a professional emcee stands as a golden strand, weaving together the fabric of a successful banquet. Whether it's a corporate gala, event, or a charity fundraiser, the emcee serves as the conductor, orchestrating the flow of the event with finesse and flair. Here's why you need a professional emcee to elevate your banquet to new heights of excellence:

1. **Masterful Command of the Atmosphere:** A professional emcee possesses the rare gift of setting the tone for the entire event. Through their charismatic presence and expertly modulated voice, they can captivate the audience from the moment they step onto the stage. Whether you desire an air of sophistication, jubilant celebration, or heartfelt solemnity, the emcee crafts the ambiance that aligns with your vision.
2. **Seamless Transitions and Timely Introductions:** Banquets often entail a series of segments, from speeches and presentations to entertainment and awards ceremonies. A skilled emcee navigates these transitions seamlessly, ensuring that each segment flows effortlessly into the next. With meticulous timing and polished delivery, they introduce speakers, performers, and honorees with the respect and gravitas befitting the occasion.
3. **Engagement and Interaction:** Beyond mere narration, a professional emcee actively engages the audience, fostering a sense of connection and participation. Whether through witty banter, or thought-provoking prompts, they keep guests enthralled and energized throughout the event. By breaking down barriers and fostering camaraderie, the emcee transforms passive spectators into active participants, enriching the overall experience.
4. **Crisis Management and Adaptability:** In the unpredictable realm of live events, unforeseen challenges can arise at any moment. A seasoned emcee remains unflappable in the face of adversity, swiftly addressing any issues that may arise with poise and professionalism. Whether it's technical glitches, scheduling changes, or unexpected emergencies, they possess the improvisational skills and quick thinking to navigate through obstacles without missing a beat.
5. **Brand Representation and Image Enhancement:** For corporate banquets and branded events, the emcee serves as a tangible embodiment of your organization's values and ethos. Through their polished demeanor, articulate speech, and impeccable presentation, they reinforce your brand image and enhance its credibility in the eyes of attendees. By aligning their messaging with your objectives, they help reinforce key brand messages and foster a positive association with your company.
6. **Memorable Experiences and Lasting Impressions:** Ultimately, the mark of a truly exceptional banquet lies in the memories it creates and the impressions it leaves upon its guests. A professional emcee possesses the ability to transform ordinary moments into extraordinary memories, leaving attendees with a sense of awe and admiration long after the event has concluded. Through their charisma, warmth, and sheer magnetism, they leave an indelible imprint upon the hearts and minds of all who attend.



In conclusion, a professional emcee is not merely a luxury but a necessity for any banquet aspiring to greatness. From setting the stage to commanding the spotlight, they are the guiding force that transforms your vision into reality. With their expertise, passion, and unwavering commitment to excellence, they elevate your banquet to new heights of success and ensure that every moment is truly unforgettable.

## 14 Fun Ways to Thank Your Volunteers After A Successful Fundraising Banquet

Expressing gratitude to volunteers after a fundraising banquet is crucial for fostering a sense of appreciation and ensuring their continued support. Here are some creative ways to thank your volunteers:

1. **Personalized Thank You Notes:** Write personalized thank you notes expressing gratitude for their specific contributions. Include anecdotes from the event and highlight their individual efforts.
2. **Volunteer Spotlight:** Create a "Volunteer Spotlight" section in your organization's newsletter or website, showcasing different volunteers and their contributions. Include photos and quotes to personalize their recognition.
3. **Video Tribute:** Produce a video montage featuring photos and videos from the event, accompanied by heartfelt messages of thanks from staff members and beneficiaries.
4. **Certificates of Appreciation:** Design and distribute certificates of appreciation, customized with each volunteer's name and role. Consider adding a personal touch such as a handwritten note or signature.
5. **Social Media Shoutouts:** Post gratitude messages on your organization's social media platforms, tagging volunteers and sharing photos or videos from the banquet. Encourage others to join in thanking them.
6. **Volunteer Appreciation Event:** Host a special event exclusively for volunteers, such as a brunch or picnic, where they can relax, socialize, and be recognized for their efforts.
7. **DIY Gift Baskets:** Create DIY gift baskets filled with items such as gourmet snacks, candles, or personalized mementos. Include a handwritten thank you note to add a personal touch.
8. **Public Acknowledgment:** Acknowledge volunteers during your organization's next public event or meeting. Invite them to stand and be recognized for their contributions.
9. **Exclusive Volunteer Merchandise:** Design and distribute exclusive merchandise such as T-shirts or tote bags featuring a design that acknowledges their volunteerism.
10. **Professional Development Opportunities:** Offer professional development opportunities, such as workshops or seminars, to help volunteers enhance their skills and knowledge.
11. **Volunteer Appreciation Awards:** Establish volunteer appreciation awards recognizing categories such as "Most Dedicated Volunteer" or "Rookie of the Year," and present them at a special ceremony.
12. **Follow-up Thank You Call:** Personally call each volunteer to express gratitude and inquire about their experience at the event. Use this opportunity to gather feedback and strengthen relationships.
13. **Community Service Recognition:** Partner with local businesses to offer discounts or special perks to volunteers as a token of appreciation for their service.

14. **Time Capsule:** Create a digital or physical time capsule filled with memories from the event, including photos, testimonials, and messages of gratitude. Seal it and plan to reopen it at a future milestone event.

Remember, the key is to make volunteers feel genuinely appreciated and valued for their time and efforts. Tailor your gestures to reflect their individual contributions and preferences.

## 8 Reasons Why Comedy Fundraisers are More Successful!

Comedy fundraisers can be more successful for several reasons:

1. **Engagement:** Comedy has a unique ability to capture people's attention and engage them emotionally. Laughter releases endorphins and creates a positive atmosphere, making attendees more receptive to the cause being supported.
2. **Memorability:** Humor tends to stick in people's minds longer than serious or dry content. Attendees are more likely to remember and talk about a fundraiser if they had a good time laughing with friends.
3. **Broader Appeal:** Comedy often has a broad appeal across different demographics and backgrounds. It can attract a wider audience to the fundraiser, increasing the potential for donations and support.
4. **Positive Associations:** Comedy creates a positive association with the cause being supported. Instead of feeling burdened or guilty about donating, attendees associate the fundraiser with a fun and enjoyable experience.
5. **Social Sharing:** People are more likely to share information about events that made them laugh. This can lead to increased exposure for the fundraiser through word-of-mouth and social media sharing.
6. **Higher Attendance:** A comedy fundraiser is more likely to draw a larger crowd compared to a traditional fundraising event. The promise of entertainment and laughter encourages more people to attend, increasing the overall fundraising potential.
7. **Enhanced Donor Experience:** Attendees are more likely to have a positive experience at a comedy fundraiser, which can lead to increased donor satisfaction and loyalty. Happy donors are more likely to contribute again in the future.
8. **Lower Barrier to Entry:** Comedy fundraisers can feel more approachable and less intimidating than formal galas or events. This lower barrier to entry encourages more people to participate, including those who might not typically attend fundraising events.

Overall, the combination of laughter, entertainment, and a good cause makes comedy fundraisers more appealing and successful in raising funds and awareness.

## **Beyond the Banquet: 5 Ways to Nurture Relationships Through Post-Event Engagement in Nonprofit Fundraising**

The success of a nonprofit fundraising banquet goes far beyond the night of celebration and generosity. Post-event engagement plays a pivotal role in sustaining the momentum generated during the event, fostering lasting relationships with donors, and keeping the flame of support alive. In this post, I will explore the importance of post-event engagement and strategies nonprofits can employ to maintain a meaningful connection with their supporters.

### **Expressing Gratitude:**

As the proverbial dust settles after the fundraising banquet, the first step in post-event engagement is expressing sincere gratitude. Sending personalized thank-you notes, emails, or even making phone calls to attendees, sponsors, and volunteers reinforces the appreciation for their contribution. Expressing gratitude promptly not only acknowledges their support but also sets the tone for ongoing communication. I personally called everyone who filled out a card at our last banquet. Not only was it fun, it was a wonderful way to make some new connections.

### **Highlighting Impact:**

Keeping donors engaged requires transparency and a clear understanding of the impact their contributions have made. Share success stories, testimonials, and concrete examples of how the funds raised are being utilized to advance the organization's mission. Visual storytelling through photos and videos can be particularly powerful in conveying the tangible outcomes of their support.

### **Regular Updates:**

Establish a consistent communication strategy to keep donors informed about the organization's activities, milestones, and future plans. Regular newsletters, social media updates, and emails help maintain a connection with supporters. Include behind-the-scenes glimpses, interviews with beneficiaries, and updates on ongoing projects to provide a comprehensive view of the organization's work.

### **Exclusive Events and Behind-the-Scenes Access:**

Create a sense of exclusivity by offering donors special access to behind-the-scenes activities, exclusive events, or sneak peeks into upcoming projects. This not only makes donors feel appreciated but also deepens their connection with the organization. Consider organizing virtual tours, webinars, or private gatherings to provide a more intimate and personal experience.

### **Interactive Platforms:**

Utilize interactive platforms to engage donors in a two-way conversation. Create forums, discussion groups, or online Q&A sessions where donors can actively participate and share their thoughts. Building a sense of community among supporters fosters a collaborative spirit and strengthens their connection with the organization.

Post-event engagement is the bridge that transforms a one-time donor into a long-term supporter and advocate for your cause. Beyond the banquet, the journey of engagement continues, paving the way for sustained support and a shared commitment to making a positive impact on the world.

**I am nervous about having a comedian at my annual fundraising banquet.**

I received this question today. It's a common question that I get. I completely understand. I would be nervous about making such a big change as well. This is a great time to explain that yes, I am a comedian, but when I'm speaking at a banquet, fundraising event, etc - I am a fundraiser who uses comedy to move people to action.

Here is the answer that I sent this morning and that I have sent out on several occasions:

"Great question! Thank you so much for getting back to me and giving me a chance to answer!

The simple answer is that I use comedy to tell our family's life-affirming stories and do my financial appeal. I am a comedian, but more than that, I am a professional fundraiser. I am currently half-way to my Certificate of Fundraising Management through the Lilly School of Philanthropy. I am also the director of a nonprofit in my hometown, Guardian Angels of SW Florida, and that means I am primarily a fundraiser working with major donors, legacy givers, and the annual gift department. I am more trained in fundraising than I am in comedy! :)

My typical "show" for a banquet is broken into three interlocking parts. I start with 15 minutes of clean, family friendly, comedy that sets up the second two parts of the show. My comedy centers around family, marriage, and children. Then I spend 15 minutes telling the stories of our foray into our local pregnancy resource center after we miscarried our first child and our story of the life-saving international adoption of our son. The final 15 minutes is the financial appeal. That is set up by the previous two parts of my speech. I have had many comments from directors that have said that my I have given the best financial appeal that they have heard. It all flows together very well.

Many people find me funny, however many more people find me inspirational (at banquets). The last three banquets that I spoke at were able to raise the most money in their history of their banquets. That's not a guarantee though! hah.

I can easily be billed as an inspirational speaker. Yes, I have been the first "comedian" for a handful of places and they have been very pleased!"

## Fundraising Tips: 5 Things Every Donor Wants to Know About Your Nonprofit

There are several key pieces of information about a nonprofit organization before deciding to contribute. These include:

1. **Mission and Impact:** Donors want to understand your nonprofit's mission and the impact it's making in the community or the cause it serves. They want to know what specific problem your organization is addressing and how you're addressing it.
2. **Financial Health:** Donors want to know about your nonprofit's financial health. This includes information about your budget, revenue sources, expenses, and any financial challenges you may be facing. Providing financial statements and reports can help build trust with donors.
3. **Programs and Activities:** Donors want to know about the specific programs and activities your nonprofit conducts to achieve its mission. They may want details about the beneficiaries you serve, the services you provide, and the outcomes you've achieved.
4. **Success Stories and Testimonials:** Donors are often interested in hearing success stories and testimonials from the people your nonprofit has helped. Sharing stories of impact can illustrate the real-world results of your work and inspire donors to contribute.
5. **Future Plans and Sustainability:** Donors want to know about your nonprofit's plans for the future and how you plan to sustain your programs and activities over the long term. This may include information about fundraising strategies, expansion plans, and potential challenges or opportunities on the horizon.

By providing clear and comprehensive information on these topics, nonprofits can build trust with donors and demonstrate their commitment to making a positive impact in their communities. Fundraisers need to know this!



## Quick Guide to Fundraising for Smaller Non-Profits

Updated: Jul 8

### Quick Guide to Fundraising for Smaller Non-Profits

It's my joy to serve a lot of smaller non-profits by speaking at events and informal mentoring. There are a few things that we all need to know about fundraising. Here they are! They are our LEGS to stand on. (Hopefully that helps you remember them!)

L - Levels

E - Events

G - Grants

S - Social

#### Levels

We have an unlimited amount of love; however, we don't have an unlimited amount of time. Everyone that gives to our work is loved the same. Not everyone that gives to our organization gets the same amount of our time. There are three levels of givers (by amount given).

First, you have annual givers. They love your work but don't have the capacity to give large gifts. You have two main goals with that group. First, you want them to become monthly givers. As a monthly giver, I don't give large gifts, but I've given monthly for 9 years. That's a lot for me. Also, with this group you want to encourage them to leave you a legacy gift. That means you want them to write you into their will.

Secondly, you have mid-major givers. These are people with the capacity to give larger gifts, but they don't give you larger gifts because they are either new to you or they give to other places. Your goal with them is to build a relationship and figure out how their passion lines up with your mission. That won't happen through your talking. It will happen through your listening.

Lastly, you have your major givers. They give you large gifts and have the capacity to continue to give you large gifts. Most likely, you have 8-12 of these in your group and they give you most of the money that you have. Spend most of your fundraising time and energy with them.

#### Events

Events can be horrible or wonderful. It's up to you to determine which they will be. Here are some tips to ensure your events are wonderful. First, you need to determine the purpose of the event. Is it for fundraising, awareness, or thanking your donors? Second, how much time, energy, and money

do you think it will take to pull off your event? Is it worth it? If not, what can you do differently to make sure it is? Scaling back some expenses? Getting sponsorships? Involving board members and volunteers more in the planning and execution?

Make sure you do an [annual banquet](#). There is nothing more powerful than having EVERYONE together as you cheerlead the incredible impact that they are making through the work that they are supporting that you are leading. The annual banquet is the focal point of your fundraising calendar. [Click here](#) to download a FREE annual banquet planning calendar!

There is an endless number of ideas for fundraising events on the internet. Google them! Of course, I suggest a [comedy night](#) featuring me!

## Grants

Don't get scared! Grants don't have to be overwhelming. The groups that give out grants want to help people just like you! Many of them will have training on their websites walking you through the application process. Watch them! They are telling you how to get their grants!

Run to your local Community Foundation! Attend EVERYTHING they offer! You want them to know you and think about you. They will help you find and apply for local grants.

Use your internet search! Look for local and national grants that you qualify for. Also, there are a lot of free trainings on youtube designed to help you learn more about the grant writing world.

## Social

I wanted to do this one first, but Sleg doesn't sound as good as Legs.

You want people to think of you WELL and OFTEN. You will need to invest some money in a couple of programs, but they will be worth it. First, you need a CRM. That's a database where you can put the info in from all your current and potential donors. You can send emails and mailings from them. It will make taxes easier too. Also, you can take credit cards, debit cards, and ACH authorizations. Why? You need to be able to sign up monthly givers. You need to be able to send out a monthly E-newsletter. You need to have a database of your givers.

Invest in a program like Canva. From there you can create a social media calendar and social media posts. I am generally 3-4 months out in my social media posts. That means I have 3 months of social media posts created and scheduled to be posted in one morning. (That sounds nice right?)

You need a website. Without a website – you have no front door to many people.

Hit the streets! Get to churches, community clubs, events, etc!

Fundraising isn't the hardest thing in the world when you stand on your LEGS!

## **A Fundraising Event at the End of the Year????**

33% of annual giving occurs in December.

12% of ALL giving happens in the last 3 days of December.

Why not do a fundraising event in December? I'm not suggesting that you do your ANNUAL BANQUET in December! Ha! However, why not do something fun around Christmas and New Year's for your top donors...and their friends (who will be looking to make charitable contributions at year end anyway)?

Seriously - don't skip this. I am a trained major donor officer. Most of your funds come from a small group of people. You can't let the year end pass without making one more appeal to them. You also want to get in with their friends. These donors love you so much that they support you financially. Give them the opportunity to invite their friends to a special (smaller) event.

And bring in a comedian who specializes in fundraising. Me. :)

It's not that hard to pull off. It's a tenth of the planning of any other fundraiser that you do. And, you can ask one of your donors to sponsor it. Make this their special project. Let them pay for the comedian. Let them find the venue and work through their network.

## About Me

[www.TimBoydComedy.com](http://www.TimBoydComedy.com)

### Short Bio

Tim Boyd is a middle-aged man with a wife, 5 children, and pretty much nothing else. His humor comes from marriage, family, and the everyday annoyances that most people let go. Audiences from age 7 to 107 enjoy his funny stories and quick wit. He travels the country as a fundraiser comedian using humor and inspiration to raise money for incredible non-profits.

### Long Bio

Tim Boyd is a born storyteller, known for his talents as a comedian, fundraiser, and former pastor with over two decades of experience. His journey through various roles has been marked by a commitment to service, humor, and deep sense of purpose.

For twenty years, Tim served as a pastor, where he touched the lives of many through his compassionate leadership and unwavering dedication to his community. During this time, he cultivated invaluable skills in communication, empathy, and understanding, which continue to shape his approach to comedy and fundraising.

In addition to his pastoral work, Tim serves as the director of a christian foster care nonprofit, where he works tirelessly to improve the lives of vulnerable children and families. His passion for making a difference in the lives of others led him to spearhead initiatives aimed at providing support, resources, and hope to those in need.

Tim's journey into the world of comedy and fundraising has been influenced by his rich and diverse experiences. His unique perspective, coupled with his lightning quick wit and relatable humor, has made him a sought-after entertainer and speaker at various events, fundraisers, and churches across the nation.

Mostly, Tim is a husband and father. He and his wife have been married for 23 years and they have 5 children...and little else! They have seen the work of God through the life-saving international adoption of their, now, teenage son. They have been able to experience God's grace through their first miscarriage all the way to their unexpected "bonus" child who has brought immeasurable joy to their family.

Tim is the author of "Loser: The Two-talent Servant," a hilarious look at the amazing truth found in one of Jesus' parables. Tim's life is a testament to the power of love, laughter, and service. Through his fundraising efforts, he continues to inspire others to find joy in the midst of life's challenges and to make a positive impact in the world around them.