

## LETTER OF FINANCIAL PARTNERSHIP

Since 1981, the *Let's Start Talking Ministry* has recruited, trained, and sent out more than 5000 Christians to share the gospel in foreign countries. Each year, LST workers make a huge faith commitment when they agree to go overseas and share their faith. They not only commit to over 70 hours of training and preparation, but also to raising funds on behalf of the LST ministry. In order to participate, each Worker commits to a minimum contribution to the LST ministry. Most workers—especially student workers—fulfill this commitment with the help of many family members, friends, and churches. Solomon said long ago, *“Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work: If one falls down his friend can help him up.”*

You have been asked to be the Financial Partner with an LST Worker, so we want to be certain that you have received all of the information you need to make a good decision about the tasks and responsibilities that you would be assuming. If, after reading this letter, you have further questions or need more clarification, please don't hesitate to call or write us, and we will respond to you quickly. *Our goal is to provide you with all you need to be confident in your partnership.* Here is what we believe you want to know:

- Each LST worker commits to contributing/raising a specific amount for the LST Ministry, so that the ministry has the funds to recruit, train, send out, and supervise all of the LST workers. Your Worker should share with you the minimum contribution commitment which they have accepted. By agreeing to be a Financial Partner, you agree to help meet this commitment. Truly, you become a partner with the LST Worker.
- The amount your worker is expected to raise depends on the length of their project. Please contact the LST office for current fundraising amounts. Please note that there is a surcharge if going to Africa and a discount if going to Central America, due to the vast difference in airfare.
- Upon application to LST, workers are given three options for fulfilling their contribution commitment. They may
  - enclose a check for the full amount (This option is not open to university students.),
  - supply a valid bank card number to guarantee payment (This option is not open to university students.),
  - or provide a signed Letter of Financial Partnership from a person or a church to the LST office, showing that someone else has agreed to share the commitment with them. Your worker has asked you to be the Financial Partner for him/her.
- To help Workers fulfill their commitment, LST provides all workers with special training in fundraising, with sample letters and materials, with web-based fund raising opportunities, and with regular encouragement. We will gladly send you materials as well, upon request.
- Workers and Partners have the following commitment deadlines.
  - Campus workers without a Financial Partner by their Intensive Training Weekend (January) will be dropped from their team.
  - **50% Deadline.** For campus teams, this would be February 1. (For workers leaving other times, those deadlines will be sent upon application approval.) If shortages exist, Financial Partners will be contacted and their bank cards charged for the amount due.
  - **100% Deadline.** For campus teams, this date is April 15. If shortages exist, Financial Partners will be contacted and their bank cards charged.
- If, for instance, you and your Worker (a member of a campus team going in the summer) are raising \$3500 and on February 1, you have \$1750 raised, that worker is in good standing and you

will not be contacted. If, however, you and the Worker have only \$1500 raised by February 1, the LST office will contact you, and let you know that you both have a \$250 deficit. You will be asked to fulfill your Partnership commitment by covering that deficit with your bankcard.

- **The Financial Partner should decide whether any amount sent should be designated as an advance on behalf of the Worker's commitment or a contribution.** If you designate the amount as an advance and notify us of such, the LST office will refund the money advanced by you as soon as the total overall amount required *plus* the amount of the advance has been raised.
- **If a worker withdraws or is dropped from an LST project AFTER the first deadline, all money received will be used for the benefit of the LST projects, therefore, no refunds should be expected.** Partners and Contributors must realize that after this first deadline, LST has considerable investment in each Worker in the form of recruiting, training expenses, airfare, materials, host site commitments, etc.)

The **Let's Start Talking Ministry** tries to maintain the highest standards of integrity, and we believe that the people with whom we enter into relationships have similar standards of honesty. Our goal is to share Jesus. If this is your goal, and you wish to partner with an LST worker in meeting the minimum contribution commitment, please give us the following information, then sign and date the document. It should then be faxed or mailed to the LST office.

Name of Worker \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Financial Partner \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Bankcard Type (circle one): Visa    MasterCard    Discover

Name on card \_\_\_\_\_

Bankcard Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Financial Partner \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Return by FAX or mail to:**

**Let's Start Talking Ministry  
3201 Airport Freeway, Ste. 115  
Bedford TX 76021  
FAX: (817)684-0001**