

Ark of Hope: How to Make Your Fundraiser a Success

Catholic Relief Services distributes lifesaving food to people who are hungry due to poverty, conflict and famine.

But CRS does not just help feed the world during emergencies. CRS' farming projects help hundreds of thousands of people feed their families, work toward self-sufficiency and steward the Earth's resources for future generations.

At CRS, we believe there is no limit to what we can do to change lives around the world—if we work together.

Uniquely Engage Your Community

- **Family:** Your family might be two or twenty, but you care about our shared planet and global family. Put that care into action by inviting each member of your family to choose an animal to “adopt” and color the printout.
- **School:** Friendly competition between classes can be both fun and inspiring. Encourage classes to see who can donate the most animals or work together as a school to fill a whole ark! Arks can be customized for your school.
- **University:** Inspire others with your passion and invite your whole campus to join in CRS' mission! Educate your campus about how CRS helps people overcome challenges that impact their daily life by setting up a table and asking people for donations to choose and color an animal.
- **Business:** Build and sustain community in your workplace by bringing coworkers together around the common goal to make the world a better place. Include friendly competition or work together.
- **Parish:** Searching for an intercultural, intergenerational way to bring your community together? Invite your diverse community to join in CRS' mission of service and reflect on how we are part of God's continued promise to care for our global family and common home.
- **Chapter:** You are passionate about CRS' mission. Share that passion with your community by inviting them to give. Consider connecting the fundraiser to a recruitment event or letter writing campaign to multiply your impact.

Creatively Reach Your Goal

An ark with all the animals is \$892, but this ark doesn't need to be filled two-by-two! Choose what you want to put on your ark! Think about a realistic but aspirational fundraising goal for your community and then see how you can make it exciting!

- **Saplings for Arbor Day!** Plant a symbolic forest by inviting your community to donate as many saplings as possible.
- **Celebrate spring with honeybees.** Strive to raise \$410 for a whole hive by inviting people to donate individual bees for \$5.
- **Is your school mascot an animal from the Ark of Hope?** See which class can show the most school spirit by donating that animal. Print them off to fill the halls!
- **Observe the Feast of St. Francis** by remembering some of St. Francis' animal-related miracles by raising money for symbolic bunnies, lambs and birds.
- **Fill an ark while building community!** Show an inspirational movie or serve a recipe from the [CRS Rice Bowl archives](#). Ask for donations at the door or through your online fundraising page before the event. Offer attendees the opportunity to color or sign an animal and display them to demonstrate your unity around the cause.

All items represent actual goods and services provided to the people Catholic Relief Services serves around the world. The gifts themselves are symbolic of the good your donation will do for children, women and men in more than 100 countries.

Access the [Fundraising Toolkit](#) for more guidance on how to mobilize your community to support the lifesaving work of CRS.
