

LGBTQ Muslim Retreat

Tips & Suggestions for Raising Funds to Attend the Retreat

- Make a detailed budget of how much funds you need to raise. What is the estimated airfare? Be sure to include estimated cost for food while you're traveling and other expenses like airport parking or cab fare.
- Write a paragraph about why you want to attend the Retreat. What do you hope to gain from it? Use our [scholarship application](#) as a guide. This will be useful when you speak to your friends, colleagues, professor or other people who may be interested in supporting you.
- Make a list of 20 people that you are close to. Draft a letter that explains why you want to attend the Retreat and how it's important to you. Send each of these individuals a personalized email with your letter and ask them to donate what they can to your PayPal account. Be sure to let them know how they can send you money to your PayPal account. Be sure to send a personalized thank you note or email to everyone who donates. And include your budget; maybe they can pay for one part of your budget like meals for a day or cab fare to the airport.
- If you are a student in college or university, speak to your advisor or department chair to see if they can support you. Maybe you could offer a presentation in a class about what you learned at the retreat. Or write a paper for one of your classes. Speak to student leaders on campus to see if they have suggestions for funding sources.
- Have a pasta dinner and invite your friends. Let them know you're raising funds to attend the Retreat and request a donation of \$5-\$10. Ask your friends to bring one additional person. At the dinner, make a "pitch" about why you're attending and ask your friends to donate more if they can. Leave a jar or basket nearby so folks can make a donation anonymously if they want.
- Make a list of 20 people that you are close to. Draft a letter that explains why you want to attend the Retreat and how it's important to you. Send each of these individuals a personalized email with your letter and ask them to donate what they can to your PayPal account. Be sure to let them know how they can send you money to your PayPal account. Be sure to send a personalized thank you note or email to everyone who donates.
- Use social media. There are multiple platforms to raise money. By setting up a page and sharing it on social media, you can reach out to many people and encourage them to donate.
- Be creative as you think about raising funds. While it may seem daunting, you'll be surprised at how many of your friends and loved ones are ready to support your attendance to the Retreat.

Websites for Additional Suggestions and Materials about Fundraising:

<http://www.fundraiser-ideas.net/>

<http://www.gapyear.com/articles/90420/a-to-z-of-fundraising-ideas>