



Seventh-day Adventist Church  
NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION



Philanthropic  
Service for Institutions

## **Finding Meaning in the Mysterious—Careers in Fundraising (Part Two)**

The previous Director's Message initiated the topic of finding a career in fundraising, what to ask yourself, and why this career might be meaningful. Continuing on this theme, this column takes a look at the significance of nonprofits and the role of fundraising.

Most people enter the fundraising field because it is an environment that serves human needs. People want to heal, to educate, to preserve cultures, to shelter the abused, to inspire, or to preserve. But in order to succeed in fundraising as a career, you have to believe in yourself and have a desire to achieve.

Fundraising should touch souls, the professional's as well as those who are served. It's true that hours are spent in tasks and activities--painstaking research, preparation for every "ask" ranging from proposal writing to one-on-one solicitation, the planning for each successful event, the writing of materials such as letters, the cultivation steps so vital for each potential donor, the juggling of constituents' wants and demands, the complexities of managing volunteers and working with the board. The list could go on and can be mind-numbing.

But at the end of each day, the professional has engaged in a journey worth sharing because, whether or not the results of that day's efforts are visible, the professional can take pride in the nature of the work.

Watch for more perspectives and suggestions in upcoming columns on fundraising careers.