Many participants raise funds through tax-deductible donations from family, friends, and local businesses; sometimes the entire cost of the trip!  The following letter is an example; use it for inspiration for your own letter or just tweak a few things to add your own personal touch.  Place the letter in an envelope with one or two articles and/or pictures from the Press Page of the website and you’re on your way. Good luck!

Dear family and friends,

This {insert month of travel} I’m planning to travel to a rural part of the Dominican Republic with Una Vida, a small non-profit based in Petaluma, CA. Una Vida is dedicated to building community and inspiring change, both locally and globally. The upcoming program is a service-learning trip, meaning we’ll work on projects such as health/wellness, housing/construction, education/child development, etc.—while we soak up the lessons of cross-cultural exchange.  We will live and eat with Dominican families, and travel to rural mountain villages and markets.

In preparation for the trip, I am reading up on the DR and working to raise funds to help cover the cost of my trip. I’m asking family and friends, as well as local businesses, to chip in to get me there.

Would you please consider making a donation on my behalf? If you make a check out to Una Vida with my name on the memo line, they will send you a receipt (it’s tax deductible!).  You can send it to: Una Vida, 1736 Gilrix Street, Petaluma, CA 94954. Payments may also be made at [www.una-vida.org](http://www.una-vida.org/) on my behalf and you will also find more information about the trip there.

Thank you in advance for your support!

Sincerely,