

Fundraising Pack

Hey Oaktree!

We can't wait to see you at National Conference 2018!

We understand that the cost involved in the National Conference can be a barrier for many people to attend so we have put together this fundraising pack to help you think about ways you could go about raising money to cover the cost of your NC ticket.

You will be surprised by how many people will be excited and really keen to support you attending National Conference. This is a unique opportunity and really demonstrates your commitment to personal development which is very appealing to potential supporters.

We would love to see you all getting plenty of financial support and will do whatever we can to support you in that endeavour, just ask!

Good Luck,
The NC Team

Scholarships

Tips:

- Map your networks, think about who you know or have a contact with that might want to financially support your participation on National Conference.
- Think about people within your local community who would be aligned with National Conference. It might be because they have a focus on young people, or are passionate about issues of poverty or inequality.

Always take the time to explain:

- What the National Conference is
- Your role/ what you'll get out of National Conference
- Why they should support you to go to National Conference

Key Audiences

UNIVERSITIES

Vice-Chancellor & Faculty Heads

Contact your Vice Chancellor/Faculty leader's office directly, then follow with a phone call if you don't receive a response. Lecturers and Tutors can also be useful if you want to start there (especially if you have a great relationship with them).

Leadership Programs

Look for clubs/unions which you have a relation with, and which might be willing to support this as an education; leadership; political awareness opportunity.

COMMUNITY GROUPS

Rotary

Aim to get in contact with Presidents as well as their youth program leaders.

Lions

Again, Lions Presidents and youth program leaders will be able to help you out.

Businesses

Send an email regarding National Conference and what support you're looking for. Follow up by dropping by and asking for a quick 5 minute chat about the Roadtrip.

Churches/ Places of Worship

Look for churches which might have particular funds available to support you (ie. Missions and Justice Fund) and email them. Make sure you follow up with a phone call.

Local Councils

Contact your local council and emphasise the volunteer work you do with Oaktree.

Not all of these avenues will work, but you will never know if someone is willing to sponsor you unless you ask! If they are not successful, always ask for other potential contacts they might know who could help – they may pass you onto someone you hadn't thought of.

Template Letter

To Whom It May Concern,

I am a *(insert what you are studying and where)* and as a volunteer at Oaktree, I have been invited to attend Oaktree's National Conference from February 9 – February 11 2018.

Oaktree is Australia's largest youth-run organisation, run entirely by young volunteers under the age of 26. National Conference will provide over 100 of the organisations volunteers with the opportunity to develop plans for 2018, hear from inspiring speakers and develop skills relevant to our roles. Oaktree's volunteers from across Australia will be gathering in Melbourne and travelling to regional Victoria for the conference.

I am very passionate about the issue of extreme poverty and am eager to develop my knowledge about *(talk here about what you hope to learn from the experience)*. Currently at Oaktree I volunteer in the *(talk about the work you currently do at Oaktree)*.

The cost to participate in National Conference this year is \$180. *(If you're coming from interstate and need to book flights, include that price as well)*. I am writing to you to seek support for my participation in Oaktree's National Conference 2018. This cost covers my transport from *(insert state)* to Melbourne and back, all accommodation for the week, meals and all events and trainings throughout the weekend.

Unfortunately I will not be in a position to cover the cost of this program without additional support. I am aware that *(Insert name of org/business/university)* has been very generous in the past supporting similar Oaktree programs and would be extremely appreciative of any assistance given. **(Only use this sentence if they have actually been supportive of/involved with Oaktree in the past)**

Your support will enable me to participate in this amazing experience and gain *(a wealth of knowledge/experience/insights/invaluable skills)* that I hope to share with other young Australians. I welcome the opportunity to discuss this with you further.

Please feel free to contact me via email or phone on *(insert information)*

Regards,
(Your name)

Letter of Endorsement

A letter of endorsement can be a great way to sure up your application for receiving funding from an organisation. The best way to do this is to seek out someone who you would put down as a reference for a job, and ask them to write a letter outlining your work at Oaktree and why it'd be an incredible opportunity for you.

It can also be useful to get a letter of endorsement from your manager or a member of Oaktree's Executive Team.

Any Questions?

Don't hesitate to send any questions through to Alex McLean! You can contact her on either a.mclean@oaktree.org or on 0401 468 083.