

To support you on your way to Oaxaca, we've drafted a sample fundraising letter that you can use to raise funds for you to participate in the internship program with CASA Chapulin. Feel free to change it around, and consider framing the language differently depending on who you are sending the letter to. Make sure to have clear why you would like to participate in the internship program, what you would like to learn and share, and how you plan on bringing your experience back to your community (this will be a central part of your letter that will reflect to others your reasons for participating with CASA). Brainstorm a list of individuals and groups that may contribute to this cause; the list may be longer than you think. There are also small grant opportunities that your school, university, or community organizations may offer, so make sure to research these potentials early on. CASA may be able to offer a limited number of scholarships, so also make sure to check in with us to figure out the status of support we can offer.

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### Sample Fundraising Letter

Date

Dear (Individual, Organization, Professor, University Department, Labor Union, Faith group, etc.)

I hope this letter finds you well. I'm writing to you to ask for your support to participate in an internship program with CASA Chapulin in Oaxaca, Mexico.

CASA Chapulin is an organization that facilitates movement building efforts with individuals and grassroots groups looking to work in solidarity with social movements in Oaxaca. CASA and its members collaborate with various groups, including indigenous communities, women's cooperatives, political prisoner advocates, community-based media projects, and popular and autonomous centers. Members volunteer in Oaxaca for short-term periods and work with grassroots groups on specific projects while getting first-hand experiences of globalization and its affects in Oaxaca. CASA believes in international solidarity as a tool for creating long-term change to make fundamental and systemic change possible.

During my time with CASA I will be volunteering with (*Insert here what exactly you will be doing in Oaxaca, which groups and topics you will be working with*) and participating in educational workshops related to (*frame the CASA internship program relevant to the organization/person you are asking to donate; for example, human rights in indigenous communities, justice for political prisoners, youth leadership, etc. Visit the CASA website to generate ideas*).

CASA is funded entirely through grassroots fundraising efforts made by allies like you. CASA operates on a shoestring budget and depend on donations to keep their doors open. As such, they are asking participants to cover their own travel costs, housing, and food, as well as pay a program fee. (*Insert here the amount you are asking for, what your budget to Oaxaca looks like, and how important and relevant it is for you, your community, student group, etc. Visit the CASA website to view estimate budgets*).

Please consider donating to this one-of-a-kind opportunity. Your monetary donation will make it possible for me to participate in the internship program and strengthen and expand solidarity organizing across borders. Thank you for your time and attention.

In Community,  
Me :)