Fundraising Tips for Your MTC

Seed Funding

- $3,000 toward workshop, plus support for a Circle Mentor
- $2,000 toward first year of meetings
- Intention is to provide enough funding to support a three-day, non-residential workshop, plus one year of academic-year meetings
  - This is a basic level of support without a lot of frills, but it is possible to start off a good program this way.
  - We also hope that the seed funding will help leverage additional support for your group, either now or in the future.
Budget

• Workshop
  – Need to decide if your team will seek funding beyond the seed funding
  – Variables: length, number of participants, residential or not, food, honoraria/stipends
  – Ballpark figures:
    • ~$150-200 per teacher for a 3-day, non-residential workshop
    • ~$1,000 per teacher for a 4- to 5-day, residential workshop (or non-residential workshop with stipends)

Budget

• Academic-year meetings (6-8/year)
  – Again, need to decide whether your team will seek funding beyond the seed funding for the first year
    • Also important to consider long-term sources of funding
  – Variables: number of meetings, number of participants, food, honoraria/stipends, guest session leaders
  – Typical program: $2,000-4,000/year
Budget

• Administration
  – This may be through in-kind or volunteer support, but if not, you may want to factor in the cost of hiring an hourly student assistant or other person who can help with administrative tasks.
  • Time commitment is approximately 10 hours per academic-year meeting, more for the summer workshop

Types of Support

• In-kind
• Institutional
• Grants and financial donations
In-Kind Support

- Donations of materials, food, classroom supplies, services, and “door prizes” from local business

Institutional Support

- Make your case to colleagues and administrators: “MTCs support our institutional mission!”
- What ways can your institution can help?
  - In-kind: meeting space, copies/materials
  - Administrative: staff support
  - Personnel: teachers, faculty
  - Financial: discretionary funds, internal grant programs, existing grants from external sources
Potential Funding Sources

- Investigate the possibility of getting included as one component of a larger grant proposal
- Find out about existing grants or planned proposals from your institution
  - Talk to colleagues and administrators
  - Look up NSF-funded projects near you
  - What other grants are currently housed at your institution?
  - What proposals are in the works?

Potential Funding Sources

- Prospects
  - Local businesses
  - Corporate branch offices
  - Institution-internal grants
  - State-level grants (e.g., Improving Teacher Quality or Math Science Partnership)
  - Foundations
- Review prospects list from the MTC Network
Other Notes

• Work with your Sponsored Projects and/or Foundation Office
  – Part of building institutional support
  – They may help you make contacts
  – They have the 501(c)3 status you need!
• Build lasting relationships with your sponsors
  – Don’t forget to thank them!
  – Give them updates
  – Invite them to your meetings