

Meeting Today's Financial Challenges—One Way to Tackle Them Effectively

By

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Thanks to the foresight of the North America Division, a unique service is available for pastors throughout the division. This type of no-cost or low-cost service is rarely offered by other denominations, and yet perhaps remains a bit of a secret and an untapped source for Adventist pastors. Below is a bit of an introduction to what Philanthropic Service for Institutions, a service of the NAD, can do to help pastors.

PSI serves North America Division's (NAD) institutions as a consulting service and is both a one-stop shop and a gateway to services. Collaboration with collegial organization is one way that PSI can maximize its service to pastors and their organizations—their churches, schools, community service projects, and related projects. The PSI website, www.philanthropicservice.com has on-line resources such as an extensive annotated bibliography, podcasts, articles of current interest, commentaries on what is happening on the philanthropic scene, how-to advice, and announcements. Other ways that we serve in general are:

- Information sharing: The newsletter, The eDollar, is on-line and issued quarterly. Special announcements and information are sent out periodically.
- Grants and programs: Funds are available for board training, internships, and training. Small capacity building funds also fill in the gaps in services to NAD institutions.
- Professional resources: PSI's lending library has an up-to-date collection of books, including those for faith-based organizations, supplemented by files of information ranging from how to write an appeal letter to how to manage a capital campaign. These materials include items appropriate for faith-based organizations and churches.
- Special services: Customized materials such as for faith-based organizations are available and continually developed as needed. Training for Hispanic pastors and ministries as well as work with regional conferences are other examples of special services.
- Consulting services: The PSI staff is available and will respond to e-mail and phone requests for assistance and information, and often meet with clients on a face-to-face basis. For example, local churches and schools may ask for a staff member to meet with the congregation and/or appropriate boards or committees to review a project under consideration.

- Most information and strategies apply universally, but special effort has been made to develop relationships with professional organizations in Canada which can supply the information that is uniquely relevant to Canadian fundraising and nonprofits. Please see the PSI website for the Canadian site which provides links to significant resources, or contact PSI. Churches in Bermuda should also contact the PSI to determine if we have additional resources for Bermuda. In addition, there is a site on PSI's website in Spanish.

Please peruse the dynamic and helpful website, www.philanthropicservice.com, and contact PSI at

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