

How to Write a Stunning Direct Mail package, piece by piece

Presenter: Mazarine Treyz, Author

The Wild Woman's Guide to Fundraising

About the presenter



Author of <u>The Wild Woman's Guide</u> to Fundraising, called one of the top 10 nonprofit books of 2010 by Beth Kanter, author of <u>The Networked Nonprofit</u>.

Poll Question

- 1. Do you know what a grand control is?
- 2. Have you ever segmented your list by amount, date given?
- 3. Have you ever segmented your list by reason donors gave?

What You'll Learn Today

What makes a good header on your appeal letter, with lots of real life examples

What pictures are best in your appeal letter?

How to get more people on your mailing list

What makes a good story for your letter?

AND MORE.

What helps create urgency in your letter?

What enclosures help lend authority to your nonprofit?

What should your envelope look like (with lots of successful examples)?

What makes a good PS, (with even more real life examples!)

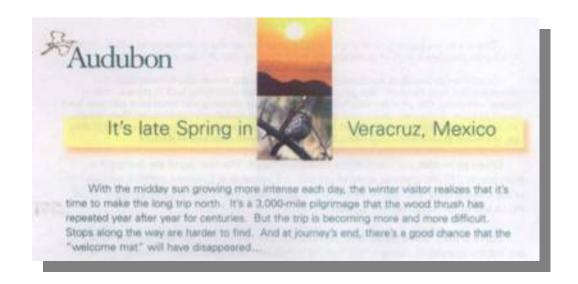
BONUS: How can you solicit matching gifts?



WHY IS DIRECT MAIL SO IMPORTANT?

US Donors give online 10% of the time.
US Donors give offline 11% of the time (not through direct mail) AND

US Donors give 79% of the time through direct mail.



Top Example: Audubon

Grand control

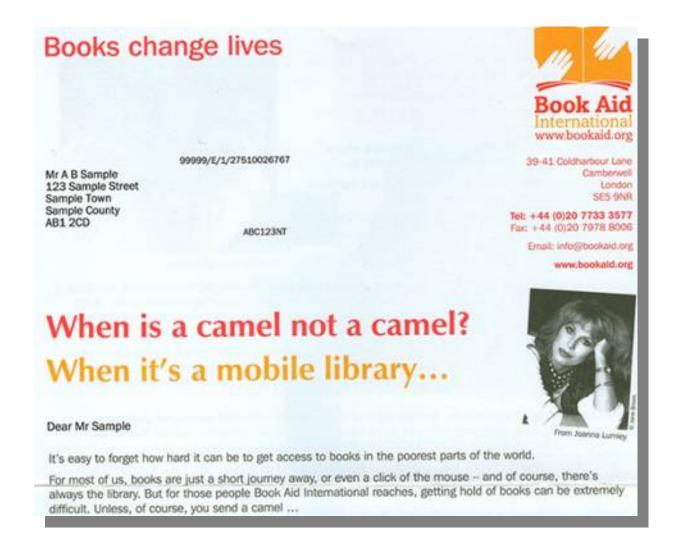
Bottom Example: Women's Aid



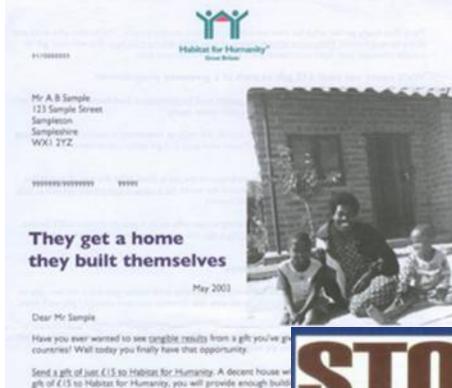
Mrs. Joan Sample, 1 Sample Street, Sample Grove, Sampletown, Co. Sample.

November 2010

Your urgent Christmas gift of €<ask1> will help a woman find the courage she needs to escape a life of cruelty and abuse...



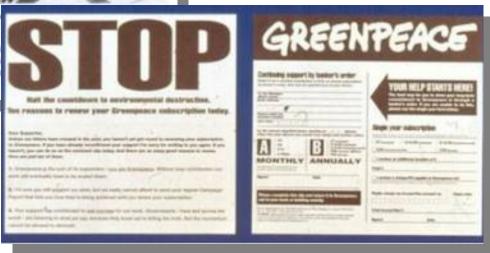
Example: Acquisition mailing from Book Aid International



family, to actually build a home for themselves - the first decert h

Top example: Habitat for Humanity grand control

Bottom Example: Greenpeace





Top example: Salvation Army holiday grand control

Bottom Example: Jewish Care



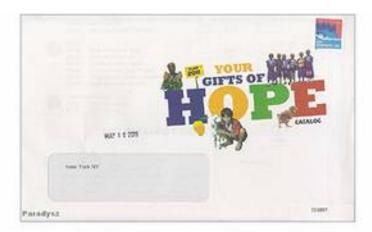
HEADER MUST KNOW AND MUST DO

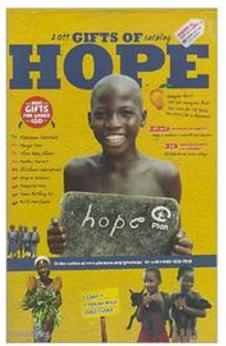
Must Know

- Headers or Headlines give urgency to your letter
- They should be clear and relate to your picture
- They should introduce your story, or an interesting fact, and communicate the drama of your cause

Must Do

- Try doing a split test with and without a headline for your next appeal.
- Make sure your headline is no longer than 3 lines.
- Use a trusted font, like Poynter Text.







		2011 CATALOG	ORDER F	DRM	Pite
	New Yo	n NY		301	00010
P Pine	or 500 s	ut this feen completely and s	rolove it with you	ir pyggenti.	In the
9015	age-pa	d envolope provided. Please re			77.1
	Danie F Section and a sec	Steen If you place the property of soul and a to possel their disability of the finishmen.			Total Cost
		When Reefed Hart		The same	1
	HB039 HB034	Sid's Busis Meets Puckage Support a Gist Package (six mores	4	5110	1
	10019	Support a GRE Package (one year)		\$300	1
		a Proc Spiness flow of whee planting with	Constitution of the Consti		
	10034	Classicen Essentials (see shife)		\$15	1
1	10037	Canarouri Essentials (classroom)		1250	
	10000	Bicycle for Dike 2 School Program		198	1
	#8009 #8009	Silves for Silve-2-School Program (Library in a Box (con)	let)	\$980 \$60	5
	KB004	Citizency in a Rex (Text)		5550	1
	\$600X	GREY CHIN THROW		\$100	1
	xects xects	Shifts Scholarskip Metachilitatus a Classenama in Martii		\$300 \$450	1
				1460	-
	KRODS	Kanga Des		\$17	1
	80004	Plange Trees (tax)		1390	10
	100007	Tires Arby Oticks		\$15	1
	RECOR	Enders Harvert		540	
	×8009	Geld Herd of Cents		576	5
	HB038	Resident States No in Nation		\$775 \$250	1
		The second secon		64.00	
	MEALTH AND STREET	Strap a Stradeure Eaby		110	¥7.
		name Enthing Kit.		125	1
	K0514	Dridhood Vaccinitiess		\$25	5
	H0115	Rospita Nets (one family)		130	1
	X00117	Keepute Rets (sase a sillage) Onan Water for a Family		15,000	1
				11.555	
	RECARS	BOTOCTORN Block Corporations		125	100
	H0019	Swifer Stove		135	1
	HESTE:		-	\$1,008	4
			Trial Cir.	ts of Nese	
			(7000.00)	a at reger	4.00
		or erose, call tails free at 3-200-584 are tre-distortible.	FROM or shap sector	e by visiting	erespicants and givening
	2022/20	pi my gift in my codit card.	Cod I		Exp. Date
		DYN DANG Different	Figures		588
		and a second first to read your condition to the special of the second s	to how haven the street	0	For Electrician the

Plan International USA uses a gift catalog



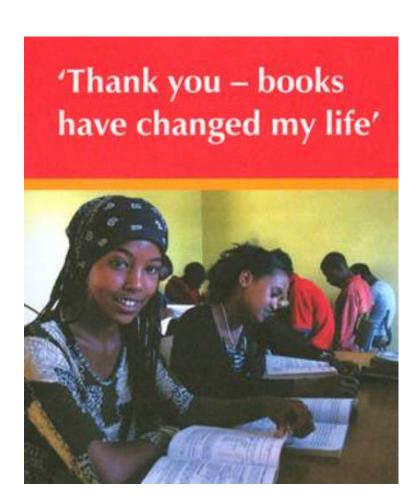




DO USE:

Pictures of your staff interacting with a person/animal being helped by your nonprofit

Pictures that show the need.



AVOID:

- Open sores & deformity.
- Long shots.
- Sexy teenagers.
- Person in an airport waving goodbye.
- Buildings.

Must Know:

- Your picture tells a story.
- Quality
 photographs of
 your cause are
 worth real money.

Must Do:

- Test two different types of pictures in your next appeal letter.
- Try a happy picture, and a sad picture, and see which works better.
- Make sure to put a caption under your picture.

How to get more people on your mailing list

Ask Board members to refer 5 friends

Ask volunteers to refer 5 friends

Ask your most loyal donors to a friendraiser and ask them to bring a friend



How to get more people on your mailing list

Buy a List:

Ask a peer, where do you buy your list? Make sure you ask good questions of the mailing company.



CONFLICT.

Every morning in Kenya's impoverished North East Province, three camels – one carrying two boxes of books, one loaded with a tent and one spare – set off on the long journey to reach some of the area's most remote nomadic communities. Here people must keep moving to find pasture and water for their animals – and that means that children often have to abandon formal schooling, and seldom even see a book. Imagine people's delight when they see the camels lumbering over the horizon – the mobile library is coming!



The camel libraries operate through the Kenya National Library Service, and deliver 7,000 books in the course of a year, bringing people the pleasure of reading, but also offering precious skills and information that can be key to escaping poverty. Fourteen-year-old Rukia is just one of the camel library's fans. "My parents died from tuberculosis when I was six," she says, "but I want to be a doctor. I hope they would be proud of me."

For the people Book Aid International helps, books are much more than just a good read – they can be a way of changing their lives for good.

And it's not just through mobile libraries that Book Aid International work. They link up with community groups, local bodies and governments too, to get much-needed books to more conventional libraries in schools, refugee

CONFLICT.

Example from Amnesty International:

(trigger warning: rape)

Dear Friend October 1995

What do the words 'women and children first' mean to you, as a woman?

That innocent children and women caught up in some terrible situation, unable to defend themselves, must be protected from danger at all cost? That was my understanding too. But 'women and children first' has taken on a whole new meaning for me since I began reading reports on the subject here at Amnesty International. A meaning that has made me want to kick and scream with fury. And do something. Like make you as angry as I am!

Because, together, your anger and mine can do a power of good, as I can show you. It can move mountains - and governments.

IF YOU'RE A MOTHER OR A WIFE you might ask Sonebia Pinzón what 'women and children first' means in Colombia.

It's every woman's nightmare. Sonebia was asleep with her three children when she woke to find four soldiers from the nearby police station round the bed. They said they were looking for weapons.

What happens next will upset you. But please don't stop reading. Don't say, 'I can't bear to read this,' because there is a purpose to my telling you. And if Sonebia and her family can get through it, so can you and I.

The soldiers don't waste a second. They have a job to do. It begins with tearing at Sonebia's clothes. She puts up a fight. If she doesn't give in, they say, they'll kill her husband, Luis, who is being dragged out of the house with a gun to his head.

Two soldiers take Sonebia out to the patio. Her three-year-old son follows, clinging to her nightie, tears pouring down his face. The stone is cold against her back as they take it in turns to rape her. She whispers to her child not to look, but he's frightened, he wants to hold his mummy's hand.

CONFLICT.



Example from Botton Village appeal

Betton Village is very Stecial-it gave me a home.



My name is Frances. I am 48. If it wasn't for Botton I would have to live on my own somewhere without my friends.

& letter from Blan Senderson, a frauder and co-worser at Setten Village.

Dear Prised.

Frances has load's syntrone. She is just one of the hardred and fifty-els scopic with meetal handlespe for whom Button Tiliage province a home, but Button is not a new kind of institution. It is a real, worsing community. Over three hundred adults and collidren live here an estooded families in our teemty-seven bosses and forms situated in the beautiful Sorth hore thoses.

We know that many people with montal fundings could not less after themselves in their cost, but in the supporting environment of bottom many sentially handingspent villagers flourist. For the first time they find a way of neutrinoting to their world.

Botton's May of 11fs emples everyone to feel a sense of achievements

Every sensor of the village has a 500 to 300, not just a town activity but a way of beiging us sustain our village, be tays elesen workshops and five farms which not only keep us tury, but also provide many of our supplies, from broad to regetables and from absence to fruit belows.

We try to help correless as much as possible, accord, neither villager nor co-screen, in paid a sage,

Frances serse in the seavery sters aming other things so make scarces, rugs and Cabrico, the also being prepare small in Sherwood, the bound

where she lives with mer extended family of fourtoen, viliagers and no-workers. Coming for fourteen every equities can be quite a lot to organise, so all turns capable hase turns in preparing the food.

Exeryone works to the best of his or her soilite but business tand we might try, we could never as self-pupperling.

While the main rule of our workshops in to enable our ciliagors to do productive work, we must always remember that their potential is very limited and we cannot expect a competitive level of productivity.

That In who we mast will haly.

Even after all our efforts to support surpolves through the cale of sursors, we still have a shortfull of about ETE for each villager every econ. Without this summy places have will be in jurporty - and the alternative is outhingable. Current figures for the country have shown that, of those people with mental handings recently theotograph from institutions, a large proportion appear to have either ended up in prison or as vagrants, with your daip this meet not topped to the riliagure of faction.

When I was talking to Frances recently she saids

I hope I can stay at Botton forever. I have many friends here. I feel Sufe.

Will you bely us to more France' with nome love! Finnes send your domation with the enclosed reply form. These you,

Tours Atmosfedly.

Aldenderas

Alan Benderson:

Fit. Frances could sever feet for hermalf in the outside world. Finance will you help her and the rest of the sillagers to remain to Sotion?

FFS If you are already a supporter of Sottoo, or any other Campbill omitre, sincer being on by passing on this appeal to a friend.



Frances with fellow villager much Cartweight in the western

Disc regions in mosts on behind of ferrors Village, Dander, Whether, Horizon, White 2015, Bratis, Village for user of the rights content of The Campilel Village Print List, a store profitmenting company Anthrel for granusers USA/NE England and regionant on a Champ 242/002.

A manufact of the Approximent of Campilel Commissions.

WHAT HELPS CREATE URGENCY? TRY THE 7 KEY THINGS THAT MAKE PEOPLE GIVE

Fear

Greed

Guilt

Anger

Exclusivity

Salvation

Flattery

Please try to give *something*.

I hope you will join in contributing...

We desperately need your help.

We cannot continue our work without your help.

Look at these Examples of Starting text after the headline:

- 1. "It's a dark and dreary night and the wind is spattering raindrops on my window. But, before I retire for the evening, I must write to dear friends like you and tell you about the troubles I face.
- 2. This is the most difficult letter I have ever written in the 10 years I have been the executive director of your domestic violence nonprofit.

- Emergency...
- Crisis...
- Disaster...
- Threat...
- Immediate...
- Urgent...
- Hurry...



Dear Friend.

It's hard to believe the holidays are fast approaching.

For many, the holiday season is a festive one; full of laughter, gifts, and gatherings with loved ones.

But for others, it is unfortunately the time in which many go without. The sad reality is that when people are forced to choose between buying food for their families or their pets, the animals are usually left to fend for themselves discarded like yesterday's garbage on the cold, lonely streets.



Dear Friend,

Could you please send just \$10 or \$15 to help us continue making lifesaving advances in cancer treatment that can help save thousands of patients each year?

These advances bring new hope – and real help – to an estimated 1.5 million Americans who will be diagnosed with cancer this year.

And one day, they may be important to you.

Right now, can you think of starting text that would create urgency for your next appeal letter?

SURVEY

Have you ever added different enclosures to a direct mail appeal?

Have you ever used enclosures aside from remits? If so, have you used;

- Brochures
- A sticky note
- A buck slip
- Other
- Some of the above
- All of the above
- 2. What were your results?
 - Better return with enclosures
 - Same return
 - Worse return

Obviously, you should always use a remit envelope. But what else?

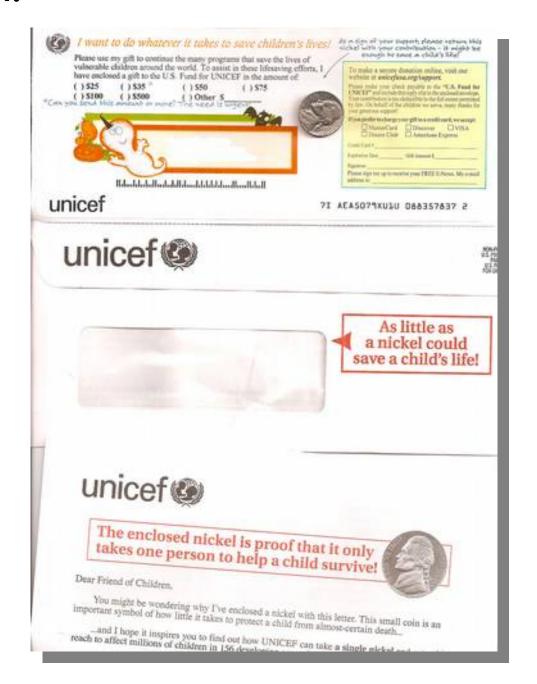


Coins:

According to The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society
The envelopes with nickels earned 75% more than the others



Coins can also be controversial



Other ideas:

Magnets: ASPCA sent a large picture frame magnet, with seven smaller magnets on the inside. On each one is a slogan (see below)



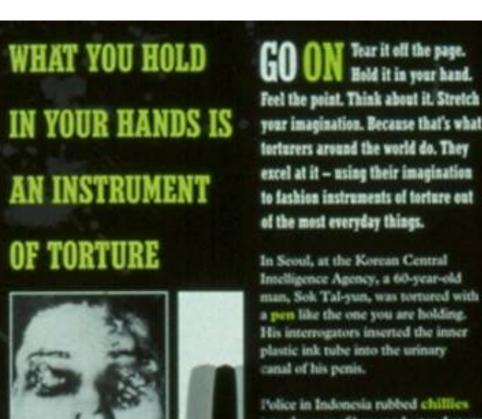
The Letter itself!

Ryton Gardens made their entire mailing on brown paper, so it could be converted into seed pots. (see below)





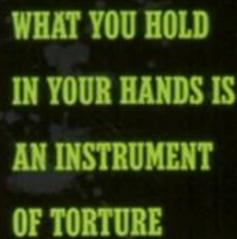
Once read, the mailing could be converted into six seed pots –

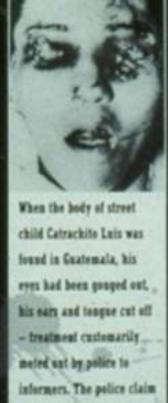


into the eyes of bus conductor Antony Ginting who was suspected of theft. They then used a common screwdriver to stab him in the head and a hammer to smash his fingers.

11-year-old Joseph from Sudan was mistakenly taken to a detention camp where police flogged him and made him hold a brick in each hand above his head for most of the day.

Kim Hyon-chan, a chemistry student arrested in South Korea, was forced to balance a pen on his outstretched arm. Try it yourself. See how long you last. Every time the pen fell, Kim was beaten.









WHAT ENCLOSURES WORK?





Other ideas: Diabetes Research Wellness Foundation uses Socks!

Size: Your outer envelope doesn't have to be a #10. It may be more expensive, but you might stand out from other, similar envelopes this way.



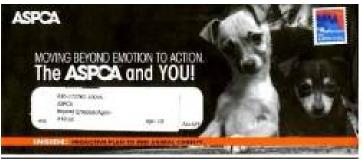


Texture: Use a varnish or printed faux finish, or make your envelope look like, for example, interdepartmental

mail.



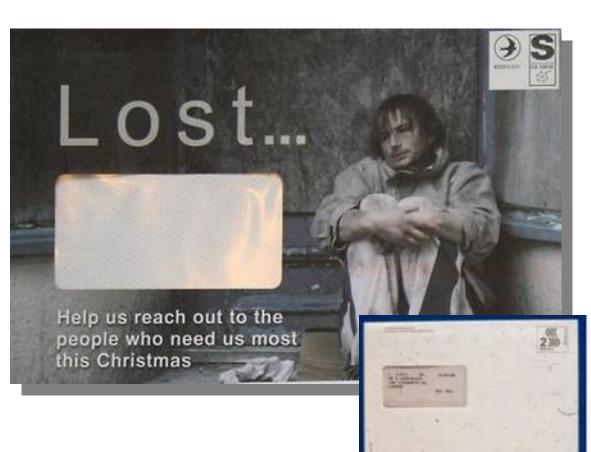




From The Longwood Garden appeal







Top example: Salvation Army holiday appeal

Bottom example: Greenpeace



WHAT IS THE ANATOMY OF YOUR APPEAL?

Most Letters follow this format:

- 1) Headline or "Johnson Box"
- 2) Salutation, such as Dear Friend, Dear Joe, or Dear Cat Lover
- 3) Short, attention-grabbing first sentence
- 4) Body copy that tells a story, presents a problem and solution, and/or presents your offer, along with benefits and details
- 5) Call to action, such as "Use the envelope and give today!"
- 6) Guarantee to back up your offer
- 7) Deadline (if appropriate) to prompt faster response
- 8) Sign off with a handwritten signature
- 9) P.S. or Post Script that presents a prime benefit, restatement of the offer, deadline reminder, bonus offer, or whatever you want to highlight
- 10) Remit envelope
- 11) Possibly a buck slip or other enclosure.

More Examples To Research

Top 5 Non-Profit Mailers

Smithsonian Institute – They generate \$532 million per year.

U.S. Fund for UNICEF – They generate \$454 million per year.

Habitat for Humanity – They generate \$356 million per year.

Leukemia & Lymphoma Society – They generate \$269 million per year.

March of Dimes – They generate \$248 million per year.

Source: http://www.changeofaddress.org/blog/2010/top-20-us-direct-mail-marketers

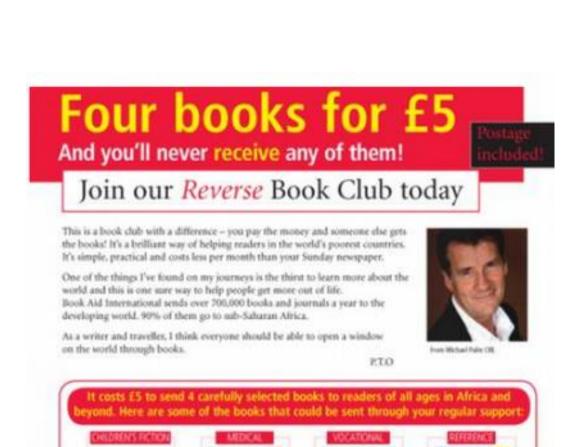
PS EXAMPLES

Restatement of the letter headline.

"Could you help a child like Belinda today?"

Restatement of the offer.

"If you give \$25 today, your donation will be matched by a generous anonymous donor!"



A practical poids for disclore.

int light date, benditured and

personies of 18%

who can't wall, but still have be-

Albertoni Sooks

At the constitution

significant authorizant for posting

Harbita Anador Electrodroma

This is a visid tool for prography

breasing gitting accommon global

PS EXAMPLES

Restatement of the premium.

"If you give \$250 today, we'd love to ask you to join us on a steamboat cruise with the Circle of Hope Giving Society. Please give today."

Restatement of how to use the reply devices.

"When you put your check for \$50 in the envelope enclosed, you'll be helping not just one dog, but helping ensure that ten more dogs can find forever homes"

Restatement of the crisis

"This Christmas, our children are hungrier than ever. Please, help ten children get dinner with your generous gift of \$100 today."



IF YOU'RE NOT GETTING ENOUGH MONEY IN THE MAIL, WHAT ARE 8 THINGS YOU CAN CHANGE?

- Add or Remove the teaser on the outside of the envelope
- Use live stamps to pay the return postage.
- Increase the number of Asks in your letter
- Help donors understand what their gifts will mean.
- Add something donor has to interact with.
- Add a time limit
- Insert a lift note.
- Remove your brochure

HOW COULD YOU INCREASE YOUR RETURNS? SEGMENT DONORS BY. . .

- All donors who gave in this same period last year
- All current multiple, non-monthly donors
- All higher-dollar donors
- All or test of 18-24 month lapsed donors who made previous gifts in this season
- All first-year donors
- Monthly donors
- Survey responders

Use the outside of the envelope



For The Next 60 Days, Make Your Dollars Double In Value In The Fight Against Lou Gehrig's Disease! 604-628520-1009 X ALS ASSOCIATION Challenge Grant #10 cd

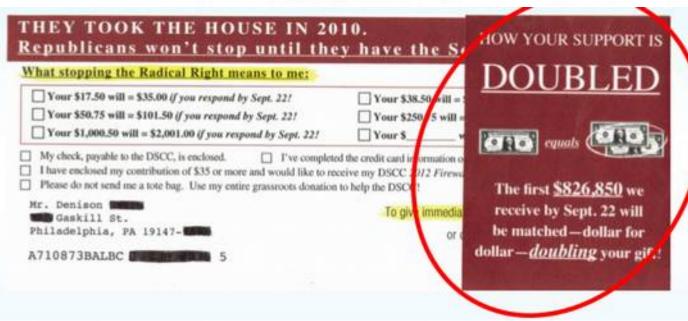
Name your challenge Tell them exactly what the challenge will accomplish

Your gift of \$50 will be matched with \$50 to accomplish

Your donation of \$_____ will accomplish _____



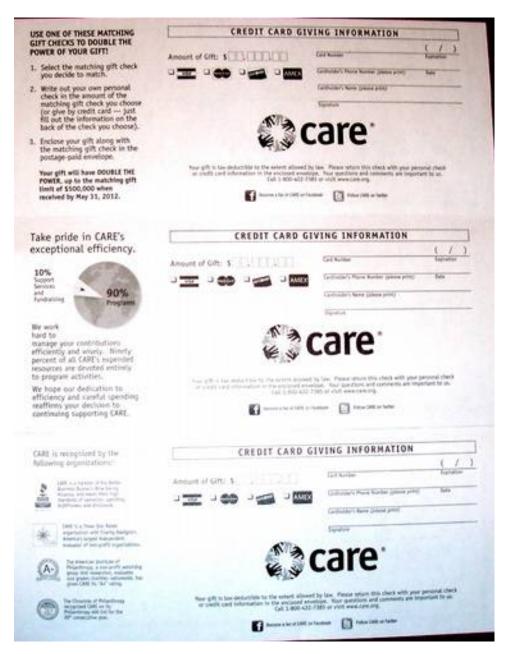
□ Your \$17.50 will = \$35.00 if you respond by Sept. 22! □ Your \$50.75 will = \$101.50 if you respond by Sept. 22! □ Your \$250.75 will = \$501.50 if you respond by Sept. 22! □ Your \$1,000.50 will = \$2,001.00 if you respond by Sept. 22! □ Your \$1,000.50 will = \$2,001.00 if you respond by Sept. 22! □ Your \$	Sept. 22! to give at leas
☐ 1 have enclosed my contribution of \$35 or more and would like to receive my DSCC 2012 Firewall total bug!	
The state of the s	Sept. 22 to reach our
Mr. Denison To give immediately, go to www.dscc.org. Gaskill St. Philadelphia, PA 19147-1994. or call 1-877-417-8807 tol-5	



Which reply device version is more compelling?

Enclosed is: \$\int \text{515 to match the red check}\$ \$\int \text{520 to match the blue check}\$ \$\int \text{535 to match the total of both checks}\$ \$\int \text{550 to make an extra special gift}\$ \$\int \text{5} \text{to help as much as possible}\$	INSTRUCTIONS Please make your check payable to The ALS Association. Send it with this form and with one or both of the Challeng Grant Checks below in the envelope provided. Thank you. The belowing information is optional and strictly confidential. The ALS Association will not set, not or shan your personal health information with any subside organization, individual or entity. To better serve you, please tell us how ALS has affected your	
To donate by credit card, see reverse side.	☐ I have ALS ☐ A family member has/had ALS ☐ A friend has/had ALS □ pproppe	
Mr. & Mrs. J. A. E 51st St Apt New York, NY 10022-	### 1275 K Street NW, Suite 1050 Weshington, DC 20000 ### 2577	
The ALS Association CHALLENGE GRANT CHE LAY TO THE ORDER OF The AL	CK August 20 10 LS Association 15.00	
CHALLENGE GRANT CHE	August 20 10	
CHALLENGE GRANT CHE LAY TO THE ORDER OF The AI	August 20 10	

If you have the budget, would you consider enclosed checks?



CARE copies ALS checks

HOW TO FIND PEOPLE IN YOUR DATABASE WHO COULD DO A MATCHING GIFT

Loyal donors:

People who have given 3x in the last 3 years

People who have given gifts of \$50-\$100



DO YOU WANT MORE RESOURCES?

Books:

Words That Sell, Richard Bayan
Cashvertising, Drew Eric Whitman
The Accidental Fundraiser, Stephanie Roth
Oglivy on Advertising, David Oglivy

Websites:

http://directmarketingiq.com (TV)

http://sofii.org

http://dearjoan.net

THANK YOU





Thank you for all that you do for your cause and for attending today.

I would love your honest feedback on this presentation. I am always trying to improve.

Follow up questions Mazarine Treyz info@wildwomanfundraising.com Phone: (512) 763-5161