



**SAFESITTER**

# Funding Methods and Tools for Registered Safe Sitter® Teaching Sites

Your nonprofit organization might want to do fundraising to cover the cost of training additional Instructors so you can offer more courses. Maybe you would like to reach low income youth who cannot afford your usual fee even with a Safe Sitter® scholarship. If your organization has fundraising staff, be sure to coordinate with them. They could be very helpful to your efforts.



## *Inside Your Organization*

The best place to look may be within your own organization. Check to see if your organization has received funding in the past. Many organizations have constituents who are interested in providing financial support for worthy projects. Hospitals often have foundations that give grants for programs such as Safe Sitter®. Schools may have parent groups that raise money to pay for special programs like Safe Sitter®. Libraries often have Friends of the Library groups. These volunteers raise funds on behalf of the library for programs and special events.



## *Sponsorships*

Sponsorships may be a good option. Service clubs such as Kiwanis or Optimist may be interested in sponsoring your Safe Sitter® program. Local businesses may want to sponsor your program. The sponsor could pay the cost of running the Safe Sitter® program in exchange for recognition in your promotional materials.

If you have any concerns about the fit of a potential sponsor with a youth-serving program, we suggest you follow your instincts. If you want our input, please call us.

Note: The sponsoring organization's logo may be added to Safe Sitter® materials as long as the Safe Sitter® logo is not changed in any way.



## *Foundation Grants*

Applying for foundation grants can be a time-consuming process. Only a small percentage of foundation proposals are actually funded. If you decide to pursue foundation grants, consider first any foundation that has already given grants to your organization and is familiar with the quality of your work.

## Template: Start-Up Costs

**(Date)**

**(Funder's Name)**

**(Funder's Address)**

**(Funder's City, State, Zip)**

**Dear (Mr/s. Funder):**

In **(your community)**, as in most communities, inadequate emphasis is often placed on the magnitude of the responsibility a young teen accepts when babysitting or watching younger siblings. Most youth lack knowledge of first aid, rescue skills, behavior management techniques and how to handle medical or household emergencies. Successful completion of an educational course addressing these competencies should be a community standard. That's why we are requesting your support.

**(Your organization)** would like to begin offering the Safe Sitter® babysitter training course to the youth of our community. Safe Sitter® is a highly-structured, competency-based curriculum designed to provide skills for life. It offers medically accurate instruction packaged with innovative teaching techniques and student materials. Young teens and preteens become safe, nurturing babysitters. And they learn how to be safe when home alone after school.

There are over 650,000 Safe Sitter® graduates from coast to coast. Safe Sitter® is a program of Safe Sitter, Inc., a nonprofit organization founded by a nationally-recognized pediatrician in 1980. A gift of **(\$ amount)** would pay all the start-up costs and allow **(your organization)** to become a Registered Safe Sitter® Teaching Site. Most of the ongoing operational costs in the future would be covered by student fees.

Young children in **(your community)** will be safer because their babysitters will be trained. Youth will feel valued, begin a lifetime of providing proper childcare and grow to become better parents. Parents of babysitters will know their young teens have learned how to keep themselves safe while babysitting, watching younger siblings, and when home alone.

Please consider this request to help bring all these benefits to **(your community)**. If you would like to learn more, please contact me at **(your telephone number)** or **(your email address)**. You may also visit [safesitter.org](http://safesitter.org).

Sincerely,

**(Your name)**

Template: Operating Funds

**(Date)**

**(Funder's Name)**

**(Funder's Address)**

**(Funder's City, State, Zip)**

Dear **(Mr/s. Funder)**:

For the past **(number)** years, **(your organization)** has offered the Safe Sitter® babysitter training course to the youth of **(your community)** and surrounding communities. This course teaches first aid, rescue skills, behavior management techniques and how to handle medical or household emergencies. We believe successful completion of an educational course addressing these competencies should be a community standard. That's why we are requesting your support.

Our goal is to continue to offer Safe Sitter® as a community service, not as a profit-making venture. The effectiveness of the program is due in part to highly skilled Instructors who teach with a ratio of no more than eight youth for each adult Instructor. Costs for maintaining skilled Instructors continue to rise.

To keep Safe Sitter® available and affordable, we only charge **(\$ amount)** per student. We request your support in allowing **(your organization)** to continue bringing this valuable program to the people of **(your city)**. A gift of **(\$ amount)** would cover the personnel costs for next year's courses. Student fees would cover the balance of the costs.

Young children in **(your community)** will be safer because their babysitters will be trained. Youth will feel valued and learn skills that last a lifetime. Parents of babysitters will know their adolescents have learned how to keep themselves safe while babysitting and when home alone after school.

There are over 650,000 Safe Sitter® graduates from coast to coast. Safe Sitter® is a program of Safe Sitter, Inc., a nonprofit organization founded by a nationally-recognized pediatrician in 1980. Please consider this request to help **(your organization)** continue to offer this valuable service. If you would like to see an actual Safe Sitter® course, you are invited to attend the ceremony at the end of our course on **(date and location)**.

If you would like to learn more, please contact me at **(your telephone number)** or **(your email address)**. You may also visit [safesitter.org](http://safesitter.org).

Sincerely,

**(Your name)**