



SWEETWATER ZEN CENTER 2011 FUNDRAISING LETTER

“Being One with All Buddhas in the Abundance spheres, extending generosity, perfection of both body and mind appears.”

At the Sweetwater Zen Center, we chant this Gata on Abundance every Sunday. We want the energy and power of such abundance to inspire this years fundraising. The universe is giving us all everything we need so please join us in celebrating our full life by Donating to the Sweetwater Zen Center here....

Since we depend upon your generosity to keep going and maintain our beautiful temple, we want to share some of the wonderful things that are happening due to your support.

While Zazen is our main practice, the Sweetwater Zen Center has grown over the years into a diverse community, holding the space for many home-based programs as well as outreach opportunities for spiritual and personal growth. For instance we continue to focus on communication techniques through workshops on depression and weekly communication groups such as Non-Violent Communication and “Council Practice” (sharing from the heart). These are essential both for our intentional community and for our Zen practice and most of them are offered free of charge.

We offer a wonderful winter celebration as our annual New Years program at the end of the winter intensive period with a home-dyed sand Mandala in the yurt and fire ceremony.

We have also begun taking meditation to the streets of downtown San Diego each month for day-long sitting practices (or zazenkis) which includes offering meals to the homeless population. Also this October we are very excited to host and participate in a four-day Bearing Witness Street Retreat with Genro Roshi ... tinyurl.com/3fgntfe

Sweetwater Zen Center carries your compassionate donations through volunteering efforts to prison meditation, children’s outreach and hospice work. Please participate by giving what you can to aid the center’s outreach services.

For sustainability we keep visions of installing a second grey-water reuse system to maintain the beautiful garden to be as green as possible.

Since our membership has grown in the past year, so too has the need to meet a larger capacity for a Zen student dormitory allowing overnight stays for sesshin.

Whether it’s just one of the \$20 bills the bank teller just handed you or perhaps it’s the \$300 rebate you received in the mail, your charity keeps our practice healthy and the legacy of our lineage thriving.

For \$500 donation we will be honored to display your name on a beautiful tile plaque at the entrance to the Zendo

We rely on your compassionate giving to accomplish so many wonderful things for our community. All these practices, both traditional and new, have made our community one of the most harmonious practice spaces in Southern California.

We aim to raise \$10,000 by the end of this year. Please give as soon as you can and you will see it come back ten fold.

Please use the paypal link on our website for your donation, or if you would like to send a check, make it out to Sweetwater Zen Center and send it to 2727 Highland Ave, National City, CA, 91950.

In gassho,

All of us at SWZC.