



Immaculate Conception Church
425 Union Avenue
Elizabeth, New Jersey 07208
908-352-6662

June 10, 2016

Mr. Michael Cusack
President
Guidance in Giving, Inc.
225 Snedecor Ave.
Bayport, NY 11705

Dear Mr. Cusack,

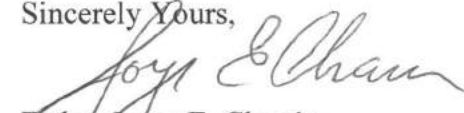
On behalf of myself and all of the parishioners at Immaculate Conception, I want to thank Guidance in Giving, Inc. for your work in helping our parish meet and exceed our parish goal. Working with Mr. José De Jesús, our assigned campaign consultant, made the campaign process an enjoyable and highly effective one.

Our parish is a very diverse and multilingual church. He was able to provide guidance at each step of the way to me, to my staff and to the Campaign Committee. In particular he helped to coach our campaign chair people in making their presentations more effective to our parish community. He was able to give us direction at each step from helping us with our donor lists to organizing our meetings, to training our committee of leaders. Clearly, he has the experience in working with communities such as ours and he brought a great sense of enthusiasm and organization to our parish.

The campaign plan that your firm espouses brought our parish families together around common needs and gently invited everyone to make a financial pledge to help meet our goal. José has a very clear understanding of Stewardship and helped our parish think beyond our normal giving to truly sacrificially give.

I am very happy with our results to date and look forward to recommending Guidance in Giving, Inc. and Mr. José De Jesús, in particular, to other parishes in need of assistance with parish Stewardship and Capital Campaigns.

Sincerely Yours,



Father Jorge E. Chacón
Pastor



ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

155 WASHINGTON AVENUE
ELIZABETH, NEW JERSEY 07202-3419
TEL.: (908) 352-5154

June 15, 2016

Mr. Michael R. Cusack
President
Guidance in Giving, Inc.
225 Snedecor Avenue
Bayport, New York 11705

Dear Mr. Cusack:

As we embarked on parish participation in the Archdiocesan Capital Campaign, "We Are Living Stones", it was clear immediately that we had the guidance of an exceptional professional in Michael Rhodes. Michael's strengths include patience, great organizational skills, excellence in communication, good sense of humor, flexibility, and superior people skills.

We successfully recruited parish volunteers, formed a campaign committee, conducted receptions, and made a compelling case for support to retire our parish debt.

Michael guided us throughout the entire process of the capital campaign. He stayed the course and helped us achieve success. It was a sincere pleasure to work with him.

In closing, Michael reflects everything positive about the company he represents - Guidance in Giving, Inc. He was definitely an asset to our campaign and remains a significant benefit to your firm.

It is without hesitation that I would recommend Guidance In Giving to anyone who asks me about your firm, and I would suggest they request Michael Rhodes as a Campaign Director.

Yours In Christ,

Reverend Manuel D. Rios
Pastor



411 Rutgers Avenue
Hillside, New Jersey 07205-2090
Tel: (908) 686-0722

June 15, 2016

Mr. Michael R. Cusack
President
Guidance in Giving, Inc.
225 Snedecor Avenue
Bayport, New York 11705

Dear Mr. Cusack:

As we embarked on parish participation in the Archdiocesan Capital Campaign, "We Are Living Stones", it was clear immediately that we had the guidance of an exceptional professional in Michael Rhodes. Michael's strengths include patience, great organizational skills, excellence in communication, good sense of humor, flexibility, and superior people skills.

We successfully recruited parish volunteers, formed a campaign committee, conducted receptions, and made a compelling case for support to replace our parish roof.

Michael guided us throughout the entire process of the capital campaign. He stayed the course and helped us achieve success. It was a sincere pleasure to work with him.

In closing, Michael reflects everything positive about the company he represents - Guidance in Giving, Inc. He was definitely an asset to our campaign and remains a significant benefit to your firm.

It is without hesitation that I would recommend Guidance In Giving to anyone who asks me about your firm, and I would suggest they request Michael Rhodes as a Campaign Director.

Yours In Christ,

Rev Luke Duc Tran

Reverend Luke Duc Tran
Pastor



St.Rocco\St.Brigid Roman Catholic Church

4206 Kennedy Boulevard
Union City NJ, 07087
(201) 863-1427
stroccounioncity@gmail.com



June 8, 2016

Mr. Michael R. Cusack, President
Guidance in Giving, Inc.
225 Snedecor Avenue
Bayport, New York 11705

Dear Mr. Cusack:

As we embarked on parish participation in the Archdiocesan Capital Campaign, "We Are Living Stones" at my two parishes, Holy Cross in Harrison and St. Anthony's in East Newark, it was clear immediately that we had the guidance of an exceptional professional in Luis Tacuri. Luis's strengths include patience, very good organizational skills, excellence in communication, good sense of humor, flexibility, and admirable people skills.

Luis guided us flawlessly through the process of the campaign. He stayed the course and helped us achieve success. It was a sincere pleasure to work with him.

In closing, Luis reflects everything positive about the company he represents - Guidance in Giving, Inc. He was definitely an asset to our campaign and remains a significant benefit to your firm.

It is without hesitation that I would recommend Guidance In Giving to anyone who asks me about your firm, and I would suggest they request Luis Tacuri as a Campaign Director.

Sincerely yours,

Rev. Joseph D. Girone

June 7, 2016

Mr. Michael R. Cusack, President
Guidance in Giving, Inc.
225 Snedecor Avenue
Bayport, New York 11705

Dear Mr. Cusack:

As we embarked on parish participation in the Archdiocesan Capital Campaign, "We Are Living Stones", it was clear immediately that we had the guidance of an exceptional professional in Luis Tacuri. Luis's strengths include great organizational skills, good communication, good sense of humor and superior people skills.

Luis provided much need guidance through the process of the campaign. He stayed the course and helped us achieve success. It was a sincere pleasure to work with him.

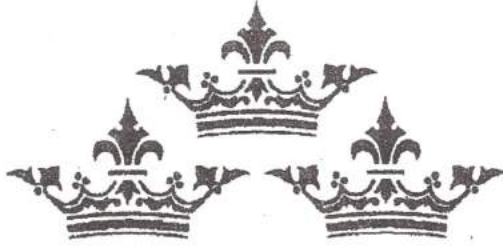
In closing, Luis reflects everything positive about the company he represents - Guidance in Giving, Inc. He was definitely an asset to our campaign and in my humble opinion is an asset for your firm.

It is without hesitation that I would recommend Guidance In Giving to anyone who asks me about your firm, and I would suggest they request Luis Tacuri as a Campaign Director.

Yours in Christ,



Rev. Fr. Michael S. P. Trainor
Administrator
Immaculate Conception Parish
Hackensack, NJ. 07601



Church of the Epiphany
Roman Catholic Church
247 Knox Avenue
Cliffside Park, NJ 07010
201-943-7320 - epiphanyrcchurch.org

June 17, 2016

Mr. Michael Cusack
President and CEO
Guidance In Giving, Inc.
225 Snedecor Avenue
Bayport, NY 11705

Dear Mr. Cusack:

I have to tell you honestly this Campaign did not come at a convenient time for our Parish. We began to celebrate our 100th Anniversary with Founders' Day – January 2-3, 2016 – and our intention was to focus a great deal of energy on the activities we planned for this great event in our Parish. I must tell you I was unsettled when I got the notes from the Diocese announcing Block 3 with our name – which was scheduled to run January to June, 2016, overlapping most of our 100th Anniversary planning – especially our Gala Dinner scheduled in May. I was not sure how we were going to manage this. Ours is a small parish with a small staff and, frankly, I was worried.

But I have to tell you that the young man that was assigned to our parish as account executive from the Guidance In Giving Company, provided us with a great deal of support and encouragement and – to my great surprise, despite his youth – a great deal of common sense wisdom. Troy Anderson has a good combination of sensible suggestions and the ability to understand parish issues. He was able to craft a program for us allowing us to do the job that needed to be done with regard to the Capital Campaign, while at the same time, allowing us enough leeway to continue and execute our planning for our 100th Anniversary. I recommend him highly.

The Campaign plan seemed very well thought out. We benefitted from the pulpit announcements and the bulletin inserts. We did not get as much of a response as I had hoped from the invitations to the three receptions. However, the exchange between Troy and the people who gathered for the receptions seemed to be helpful. I would recommend your company and your campaign plan to another Archdiocese.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rev. Ken Evans". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Rev. Ken Evans, Pastor

KE:cre

**ST. MICHAEL'S
CATHOLIC
CHURCH**

1212 KELLY STREET

UNION, NJ 07083

PHONE 1-908 688-1232

June 23, 2016

Mr. Michael Cusack
President and C.E.O.
Guidance In Giving, Inc.
225 Snedecor Avenue
Bayport, NY 11705

Dear Mr. Cusack:

As we conclude the active phase of the *We Are Living Stones* Capital Campaign, it is my pleasure to write this recommendation letter on behalf of your company. Mr. Troy Anderson, the Campaign Director assigned to our parish, is very knowledgeable, and it was very easy for me and the parish committee to work with him. Troy brings a lot of enthusiasm to the project. He is a professional in all that he does. He was aware of some of the negative feelings in the archdiocese, and he never ignored them. When questions were raised at the receptions, he answered those questions truthfully.

Troy and your company were helpful in scheduling and preparing for the receptions. Our parish volunteers were properly trained by him for the duties they were undertaking. In addition, Troy gave good advice for the in-pew appeal.

I would certainly recommend your company and campaign plan to any archdiocese or diocese. Your professionalism and experience are assets that would make any campaign successful.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Rev. Robert Wolfee
Pastor



St. Anthony of Padua Church
615 8th Street
Union City, NJ 07087
Tel 201 867 3818 Fax #201 867-8859

June 15, 2016

Mr. Michael R. Cusack, President
Guidance in Giving, Inc.
225 Snedecor Avenue
Bayport, New York 11705

Dear Mr. Cusack:

St. Anthony of Padua Church and myself would like to congratulate your company and staff for the commitment to the success of the We Are Living Stones Capital Campaign. I always believed fundraising was a gift only few pastors were blessed with, I was wrong. After completing the campaign, I learned there are two things you need for your capital campaign to be successful; cooperative parish leadership and a fundraising expert like Luis Tacuri to guide you with enthusiasm and encouragement.

Luis's exceptional leadership skills and his gift of being bi-lingual helped us tremendously in securing a high level of participation in the Hispanic community. He guided and customized our plan for success from the start by encouraging me to recruit the campaign committee, holding various meetings to adequately prepare us for the different processes in the campaign, organizing our parish-wide receptions (which was key to securing great participation), and finally he gave great informative presentations that also reflected on his personal observations.

The immediate effect of the campaign is visible as parishioners who participated now feel like they are active members of the parish who are taking ownership of their church, which all stemmed from their generous contribution to the campaign. For many families, especially in the Hispanic community, their financial contribution has been their biggest way of participating in the parish. Only six months after completing the campaign, we have begun and completed two small projects in the rectory and two projects on the church campus.

We are forever grateful for the work Luis and Guidance In Giving put forth to make this campaign the success that it was. I would highly recommend Guidance In Giving to any parish, diocese, or school that seeks direction for a capital campaign.

Yours In Christ,

Rev. Jose Manuel De La Peña

Pastor



Immaculate Conception Church
425 Union Avenue
Elizabeth, New Jersey 07208
908-352-6662

June 10, 2016

Mr. Michael Cusack
President
Guidance in Giving, Inc.
225 Snedecor Ave.
Bayport, NY 11705

Dear Mr. Cusack,

On behalf of myself and all of the parishioners at Immaculate Conception, I want to thank Guidance in Giving, Inc. for your work in helping our parish meet and exceed our parish goal. Working with Mr. José De Jesús, our assigned campaign consultant, made the campaign process an enjoyable and highly effective one.

Our parish is a very diverse and multilingual church. He was able to provide guidance at each step of the way to me, to my staff and to the Campaign Committee. In particular he helped to coach our campaign chair people in making their presentations more effective to our parish community. He was able to give us direction at each step from helping us with our donor lists to organizing our meetings, to training our committee of leaders. Clearly, he has the experience in working with communities such as ours and he brought a great sense of enthusiasm and organization to our parish.

The campaign plan that your firm espouses brought our parish families together around common needs and gently invited everyone to make a financial pledge to help meet our goal. José has a very clear understanding of Stewardship and helped our parish think beyond our normal giving to truly sacrificially give.

I am very happy with our results to date and look forward to recommending Guidance in Giving, Inc. and Mr. José De Jesús, in particular, to other parishes in need of assistance with parish Stewardship and Capital Campaigns.

Sincerely Yours,

Father Jorge E. Chacón
Pastor



The Church of St. Catherine of Siena

June 14, 2016

Mr. Michael Cusack
President
Guidance in Giving, Inc.
225 Snedecor Ave.
Bayport, NY 11705

Dear Mr. Cusack,

I wish to thank Guidance in Giving, Inc. and in particular, Mr. José de Jesús, our assigned campaign director, for working with our parish on the “We Are Living Stones Capital Campaign.” To date we have exceeded our goal and are currently redeeming the funds that were pledge.

José brought with him a sense of optimism and inspiration as well as a vast experience in planning and fundraising. He worked very closely with me, our parish secretary and a very diverse and dynamic group of parish leaders. He is a very gifted and articulate bilingual speaker. At each step of the way he provided clear direction and support materials in both Spanish and English to me and to the team.

In particular, the campaign receptions that we hosted in three languages were very effective at bringing our people together. These events provided an atmosphere of openness and fellowship that helped propel our parish to success in the campaign. The campaign video and other marketing materials were very well done and helped to tell the story.

In closing, know that I am very happy with our results to date and I would highly recommend Guidance in Giving, Inc. and in particular Mr. José De Jesús to other parishes and diocesan in need of fundraising help.

Many Blessing,

Rev. Aurelio Yañez Gómez, S.T.D.
Pastor

RECTORY

19 King Street • Hillside, New Jersey 07205-3091 • (908) 351-1515 • Fax (908) 351-2139

Our Lady of Good Counsel

654 Summer Avenue . Newark



Immaculate Conception

372 Woodside Avenue . Newark

Offices: 654 Summer Avenue . Newark, New Jersey 07104

Tel: 973.482.1274 or 973.482.0619 . Fax: 973.482.8257

June 24, 2006

Mr. Michael R. Cusack, President
Guidance in Giving, Inc.
225 Snedecor Avenue
Bayport, New York 11705

Dear Mr. Cusack:

On behalf of both our parishes, Our Lady of Good Counsel and Immaculate Conception, we would like to thank you and your company for the extraordinary service it provided us. The *We Are Living Stones* Capital Campaign provided a great opportunity for our parishes. We will now be able to start and complete a few projects we had envisioned for a long time, but did not have the financial stability to pursue.

While the Living Stones campaign is a four-year project, I know we will not have to wait four years to begin our projects. Our Lady of Good Counsel will begin renovating the pews, and Immaculate Conception will begin to repair the front steps within the next year. Luis and your company helped our parishes to thrive financially, and we will make sure that our efforts are now shifted toward the redemption process. I am a strong supporter and advocate of your plan, and I intend to implement it in our future Annual Appeals.

We would like to commend our campaign director, Luis Tacuri, for guiding us through a successful campaign at our parishes. Luis's gift of being bilingual was a great asset to our parishes. He was a great leader who helped us every step of the way, and never gave up on us throughout the campaign. We were highly confident in his expertise, and knew from the onset that if we followed the plan he personalized for us, we would be successful.

It would be our great pleasure to recommend Guidance In Giving to anyone who has plans of fundraising. We look forward to working with you and your company in the future.

Yours In Christ,


Rev. Jorge E. Acosta
Pastor

**MOST HOLY NAME CHURCH
99 MARSELLUS PLACE
GARFIELD,N.J.
07026**

June 24, 2016

Mr. Michael Cusack, President

Guidance in Giving, Inc.

225 Snedecor Avenue

Bayport, New York 11705

Dear Mr. Cusack,

Greetings in the Lord.


Permit me to express my thanks for the professional competence and service rendered by Jose De Jesus in coordinating the Living Stones campaign in our parish.

He was very present to us, interacted extremely well with our community, which is predominantly Spanish speaking. He was culturally competent, realizing the distinct elements of our diverse community. The response on the part of one hundred fifty donors reflects effectiveness on his part as leader, communicator and faith companion in this endeavor.

If I can be of further assistance or respond to any questions, please know of my interest and concern.

God bless.

Sincerely,


William J. Reilly



Holy Family R.C. Church

530 35th. Street

Union City, N.J. 07087

201-867-6535 ♦ 201-867-1357 Fax

holyfamily35@hotmail.com

www.holyfamilyunioncity.org

June 22, 2016

Mr. Michael R. Cusack, President
Guidance in Giving, Inc.
225 Snedecor Ave
Bayport, New York 11705

Dear Mr. Cusack:

Holy Family Parish and I would like to thank Guidance In Giving for the great work and service it provided us. The previous pastor at Holy Family was a well-known fundraising expert who had a successful capital campaign, which funded the restoration of our historic church. Just a few years after completing our capital campaign, our parish began deteriorating and was in need of extra funding for repairs and maintenance. The We Are Living Stones campaign was a blessing and the perfect opportunity for our parish, which is why we took full advantage of participating.

The positive impacts of the campaign were incredible noticeable. Not only did the campaign help us financially, but it helped to create fellowship, a sense of belonging, and a need to unite in order to provide for our spiritual home and the Archdiocese. Being relatively new to the parish myself, it was a great opportunity for me to connect with the parish leaders, work as a team, and build lasting relationships.

I would like to commend our campaign director, Luis Tacuri, who is and enthusiastic leader that guided us every step of the way. Throughout the campaign, Luis conducted various meetings in which he was a strong and informative leader. He trained us well, and kept us on course for success. His good sense of humor was an added bonus, as all of our meetings were full of laughter. It was a sincere pleasure working with Luis; his bilingual abilities were a benefit to our parish.

I would highly recommend Guidance in giving to any parish that has plans to fundraise. I look forward to being able to work with your company in the future.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Thomas J. Devine, O.A.R.
Pastor



June 24, 2016

Mr. Michael Cusack
President and CEO
Guidance In Giving, Inc.
225 Snedecor Avenue
Bayport, NY 11705

Dear Mr. Cusack:

Our parish recently participated in the We Are Living Stones Capital Campaign here in the Archdiocese of Newark. We are pleased that we were able to surpass our \$1,101,654 goal through the efforts of our committee and also, Tim McCaig, our Guidance in Giving coordinator. It was a pleasure to work with Tim on this endeavor and we owe much of our success to his knowledge and support in running this campaign.

Tim's energy and enthusiasm in working with us to achieve our lofty goal was evident at the onset and it continued throughout the campaign. He worked well with staff and volunteers and worked with the committee to tailor this campaign to our parish needs. Suffice to say that the campaign was presented most effectively to our parishioners, as evidenced by the fact that we not only met our goal, but surpassed it by three percent.

Our campaign effectively ended this past fall, and because of its success, we heard the bells at Christmas once again, as we were able to repair our bell tower that had been in a state of disrepair for the past few years. We are also looking forward to installing new Church lighting and repairing our roof, as well as using the funds raised from this campaign to supplement the many ministries and outreach programs we offer here at St. Peter's.

It was a pleasure working with Tim and we would definitely recommend him to future clients of Guidance In Giving.

We greatly appreciate the cooperation that we received from your organization.

Sincerely in Christ,

Rev. Michael J. Sheehan
Pastor

ST. PETER *the* APOSTLE PARISH

445 Fifth Avenue • River Edge, NJ 07661 • 201-261-3366 • Fax 201-261-0117



Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church

Chiesa della Madonna del Carmine
259 Oliver Street Newark, NJ 07105
973-589-2090 – Fax: 973-589-2662
Email: MtCarmel259@verizon.net



June 13, 2016

Mr. Michael R. Cusack, President
Guidance in Giving, Inc.
225 Snedecor Avenue
Bayport, New York 11705

Dear Mr. Cusack:

As we began our parish participation in the Archdiocesan Capital Campaign, "We Are Living Stones", we were pleased with the enthusiasm and energy that characterized Mr. Rhodes presentation. He put us at ease, and it was clear immediately that we had the guidance of an exceptional professional. Michael's strengths include patience, great organizational skills, excellence in communication, good sense of humor, flexibility of operation, and superior people skills. He was also very generous with his time and expertise.

We achieved and surpassed our parish goal, to our great surprise and delight. Michael guided us through the process of the campaign and worked with us to have the campaign reflect our particular circumstances. This was the key to our success; Michael stayed the course and helped us to achieve it. It was a sincere pleasure to work with him.

In closing, Michael reflects everything positive about the company he represents – Guidance in Giving, Inc. He was definitely an asset to our campaign. Thank you for assigning him to guide us.

It is without hesitation that I would recommend Guidance In Giving to anyone who asks me about your firm, and I would suggest they request Michael Rhodes as a Campaign Director.

Yours In Christ,

Rev. Monsignor Joseph F. Ambrosio
Pastor



ST. AUGUSTINE'S CHURCH

3900 NEW YORK AVENUE • UNION CITY, NEW JERSEY 07087 • PHONE: 201-863-0233 • FAX: 201-863-1341

June 15, 2016

Mr. Michael R. Cusack, President
Guidance in Giving, Inc.
225 Snedecor Avenue
Bayport, New York 11705

Dear Mr. Cusack:

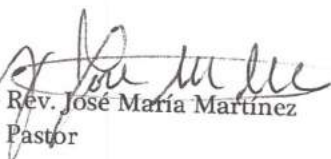
On behalf of St. Augustine Church and myself, we would like to commend your company and staff for the work it has done throughout the Archdiocese of Newark in the Archdiocesan Capital Campaign, We Are Living Stones. When I first met Luis Tacuri, I was the pastor of St. Augustine for only two months. Not only was I new to the parish, but fundraising was the last thing I had on my mind. The parochial vicar and I were reluctant to follow Luis's leadership at first; however we quickly realized that his patience with the opposing forces and his persistence was the driving force this parish needed. In the end I was surprised by the success of the campaign in our parish, which is accustomed to only seeing a \$1 bill in our Sunday collection.

Our parish has a diverse population from many countries in South America. Luis was able to relate to many with his personal life experiences during his presentations at the reception. I believe this was one of the main reasons we had such great participation. Many of our parishioners commented on and congratulated Luis for his work, and for being a dedicated young man who loved the Church.

Luis's experience working with multicultural parishes helped us tailor a plan that would be beneficial and ultimately successful for St. Augustine. I would like to commend Luis for three outstanding qualities he possess- patience, dedication, and motivation. Time after time I recall him saying to me, "Fr. José María I'm not going to give up on your parish, we will be successful."

Once again, we thank Guidance In Giving, Inc. for a superb job, and look forward to working together in the future.

Yours In Christ,


Rev. José María Martínez
Pastor



Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary/Saint Michael's R. C. Church

52 Smith St. • Elizabeth, NJ 07201
(908) 354-2454 • Fax: (908) 354-3207

June 14, 2016

Mr Michael R. Cusack, President
Guidance in Giving Inc
225 Snedecor Avenue
Bayport, New York 11705

Dear Mr Cusack,

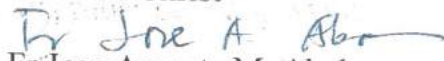
As we continue on parish participation in our Newark Archdiocesan Capital Campaign, "WE ARE LIVING STONE", it was clear that we had a good guidance of a professional expert in motivating parishioners to share and collaborate in our campaign in the person of Luis Tacuri. His strength includes patience, organizational skill, excellent in communication, good sense of humor, flexibility and superior people skills.

Luis was always helpful in the campaign. He helped us throughout the campaign. Indeed, it was a pleasure to work with him.

Furthermore, Luis represents a positive figure and idea of the company he represents –GUIDANCE IN GIVING INC., He was an asset in our campaign and I do believe that he is an asset to work with in your company.

It is without hesitation that I would recommend "GUIDANCE IN GIVING" to anyone who asked me about the firm. I personally suggest Luis Tacuri as a Campaign Director.

Yours in Christ


Fr. Jose Amante M. Abalon

**Shrine of Divine Mercy
Saint Francis Xavier Roman Catholic Church**

243 Abington Avenue West
Newark, New Jersey 07107-2598
973-482-8410 [voice]
973-485-7471 [fax]
WWW.STFXP.COM



June 15, 2016

**Mr. Michael R. Cusack, President
Guidance in Giving, INC.
225 Snedecor Ave.
Bayport, New York 11707**

Dear Mr. Cusack:

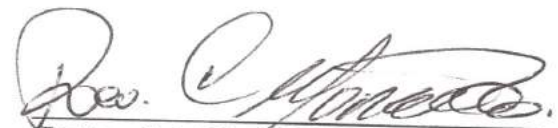
As we embarked on our Parish St. Francis Xavier in Newark, NJ participation in the Archdiocesan Capital Campaign, "We Are Living Stones", it was clear that we had the guidance of some one expert in this matter. Mr. Luis Tacuri was so great organizer in communication with people of the Parish. His skills and good sense of humor help us to reach our gal in this Campaign.

Luis guided us through the process of the campaign and helped us achieve success. It was a sincere pleasure to work with him.

He reflects everything positive about the company he represents. He was definitely an asset to our campaign and a significant benefit to your firm.

It is without that I would recommend Guidance In Giving to anyone who asks me about your firm, and I would suggest they request Luis Tacuri as a Campaign Director.

Yours In Christ,


Pastor- Saint Francis Xavier Church

Serving the Community of North Newark since 1914

Sacred Heart of Jesus

537 Grove Street • Irvington, New Jersey 07111 • Phone: (973) 378-2282

June 3, 2016

Mr. Michael R. Cusack
President
Guidance in Giving, Inc.
225 Snedecor Avenue
Bayport, New York 11705

Dear Mr. Cusack:

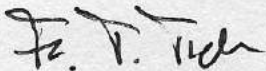
I am writing to submit a letter of recommendation for one Michael S. Rhodes, who recently assisted the parish of which I am the pastor (Sacred Heart of Jesus, Irvington, New Jersey) in conducting a capital campaign.

Michael works for and represented Guidance in Giving, a fundraising firm that works exclusively with Catholic parishes, schools and institutions. I found Michael to be efficient, thorough and conscientious.

He was easy to work with, it was obvious that he knew what he was doing during the various phases of the campaign, and he was always professional in his dress as well as his conduct.

Our capital campaign was successful, and will enable us to maintain the parish buildings on our campus. We will always be grateful for the pivotal role that Michael Rhodes played in making the campaign the success that it was. I cannot recommend him highly enough.

Most Sincerely Yours,



Reverend Tadeusz Trela
Pastor



ST. JOHN'S RECTORY
94 Ridge Street
Orange, New Jersey 07050-1604
(973) 674-0110

June 3, 2016

Mr. Michael R. Cusack
President
Guidance in Giving, Inc.
225 Snedecor Avenue
Bayport, New York 11705

Dear Mr. Cusack:

As we embarked on parish participation in the Archdiocesan Capital Campaign, "We Are Living Stones", it was clear immediately that we had the guidance of an exceptional professional in Michael Rhodes. Michael's strengths include patience, great organizational skills, excellence in communication, good sense of humor, flexibility, and superior people skills.

We achieved and surpassed our parish goal! Michael guided us flawlessly through the process of the campaign. He stayed the course and helped us achieve success. It was a sincere pleasure to work with him.

In closing, Michael reflects everything positive about the company he represents - Guidance in Giving, Inc. He was definitely an asset to our campaign and remains a significant benefit to your firm.

It is without hesitation that I would recommend Guidance In Giving to anyone who asks me about your firm, and I would suggest they request Michael Rhodes as a Campaign Director.

Sincerely,

Rev. George Faour
Pastor



The Church of St. Catherine of Siena

June 14, 2016

Mr. Michael Cusack
President
Guidance in Giving, Inc.
225 Snedecor Ave.
Bayport, NY 11705

Dear Mr. Cusack,

I wish to thank Guidance in Giving, Inc. and in particular, Mr. José de Jesús, our assigned campaign director, for working with our parish on the "We Are Living Stones Capital Campaign." To date we have exceeded our goal and are currently redeeming the funds that were pledge.

José brought with him a sense of optimism and inspiration as well as a vast experience in planning and fundraising. He worked very closely with me, our parish secretary and a very diverse and dynamic group of parish leaders. He is a very gifted and articulate bilingual speaker. At each step of the way he provided clear direction and support materials in both Spanish and English to me and to the team.

In particular, the campaign receptions that we hosted in three languages were very effective at bringing our people together. These events provided an atmosphere of openness and fellowship that helped propel our parish to success in the campaign. The campaign video and other marketing materials were very well done and helped to tell the story.

In closing, know that I am very happy with our results to date and I would highly recommend Guidance in Giving, Inc. and in particular Mr. José De Jesús to other parishes and diocesan in need of fundraising help.

Many Blessing,

Rev. Aurelio Yañez Gómez, S.T.D.
Pastor

RECTORY

19 King Street • Hillside, New Jersey 07205-3091 • (908) 351-1515 • Fax (908) 351-2139



Faith of Our Fathers
Living Still!

1837-2012

YEAR OF FAITH:

October 11, 2012—November 24, 2013

CELEBRATING ANNIVERSARIES:

175th Founding of Parish

100th Church Dedication

Mr. Michael Cusack
Guidance in Giving, Inc.
225 Snedecor Avenue
Bayport, NY 11705

August 9, 2016

Dear Mr. Cusack,

Re: Tim Schell

This letter serves as a reference for Tim Schell, a Campaign Director working for your company. I had the pleasure of getting to know Mr. Schell about a year ago, just prior to the launching of the Archdiocese of Newark's *We Are Living Stones* Capital Campaign here at St. Peter's Church (up to that point I had been meeting with Mr. Michael Goodwin, a wonderful gentleman with whom I worked closely and from whom I learned a lot about fund-raising matters).

It was a joy working with Mr. Schell on the Capital Campaign. His pleasant personality and his expertise helped us in no small way in having quite a successful campaign. He interacted wonderfully with the Steering Committee and with the parishioners who attended one of the four receptions that were held for them. He was always prompt with sending me calendars, handouts and reminders, and was always accessible by phone or email.

The best thing about working with Mr. Schell? He understood perfectly that there is no "cookie cutter" way of leading a campaign, but that each parish is unique and therefore the campaign needs to be tailored to its needs. It was clear to him that the pastor is aware of nuances that are particular to the parish, and he never sought to impose a way of doing things. As a result, there was the same level of participation in the campaign across the different socio-economic levels and the different ethnic groups that make up this Parish of St. Peter.

I told Mr. Schell on a number of occasions that I would love to be able to afford him and keep him on my staff. Maybe one day, with the help of another successful campaign with Guidance in Giving, Inc.!!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Father Ivan Sciberras
Pastor

SAINT PETER'S CHURCH

155 William Street, Belleville, NJ 07109

Phone: 973-751-2002 † Fax: 973-751-6201 † www.spbnj.org

CHURCH OF SAINT PHILOMENA

August 23, 2016

Mr. Michael Cusack
President and CEO
Guidance in Giving, Inc.
225 Snedecor Avenue
Bayport, NY 11705

Dear Mr. Cusack,

Saint Philomena Parish, like every parish in the Archdiocese of Newark, has completed the *We Are Living Stones* Capital Campaign. I consider it to have been a very successful experience, and it has been to the significant benefit of the Archdiocese and this parish as well. At present we have pledges for 80% of our goal. I am very happy with that percentage, which we achieved by close interaction with our Campaign representative, Tim Schell, and my Campaign Committee here.

Tim was in very regular contact with me, in person and by email and telephone. He was very motivated and helped me to get off on the right track to achieve a successful Campaign. The most significant element, I believe, is to form a large Committee of parishioners that represents the various constituencies in the parish. Then the receptions are well-attended, since each Committee member is asked to personally get several attendees. In this parish we had four receptions. I was very pleased with Tim Schell's leadership and guidance in the process. His communication level was high. The reports and letters, the in-pew appeal and reception materials all proved to be effective.

As a result of the Campaign, the parish has already benefitted by completing a major renovation in the sanctuary area, and also a complete repaving of our large parking lot. This became the opportune time to accomplish these things since we will have a reliable income stream for four years of pledge payments. The total will be well over \$300,000 that is returned to the parish for projects that we presented in our "case" at the start.

In conclusion, the process was effective, the personal representative was very helpful, the parishioners seemed accepting of the need, and the response was better than other parishes that I know of in this area. Finally, a great benefit was that the Campaign was done on behalf of the Archdiocese, not the parish *per se*. The parish benefitted but was spared criticism that we are "always asking for money." We didn't ask; the Archdiocese did. That made a difference.

I commend Guidance in Giving for a job well done, specifically in the case of Tim Schell. I would recommend your company to other dioceses, and I have stressed to other priests the importance of the initial Committee, that it be large in order to guarantee good attendance at the receptions.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert J. Fuhrman". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "R".

Rev. Msgr. Robert J. Fuhrman
Pastor



OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL CHURCH

One Passaic Street
Ridgewood, New Jersey 07450
(201) 444-2000
Fax: (201) 444-2002

August 18, 2016

Mr. Michael Cusack
President and CEO
Guidance In Giving, Inc.
225 Snedecor Avenue
Bayport, N.Y. 11705

Dear Michael,

This letter is so long overdue, I'm not sure it will mean anything, but I write it anyway. When we first began the We Are Living Stones campaign, it was with trepidation that I contemplated the goal set forth for Mount Carmel. It seemed unreachable. It still comes as a great shock to me that pledges stand at \$2,050,905, 139% of goal, and we have already received a check for \$175,801. I wish we could have reached the same number of donors who contribute to the AAA (a little over a hundred short), but the 538 households who have pledged are much appreciated.

Also appreciated by me has been the work of our Committee. Their enthusiasm came as a great surprise. Part of that enthusiasm came from the enthusiasm the Committee picked up from our Campaign Coordinator, Tim McCaig. His dedication to his faith and his enthusiasm for the campaign were really an inspiration, felt by everyone on the Committee, including myself. It was a wise choice to send Tim to Mount Carmel and I am grateful to you for making it.

I cannot speak too highly of his competence, his availability, his flexibility and his personality.

Thank you, Michael, for offering a pathway to this campaign that made it "doable."

Sincerely in Christ,

Rev. Msgr. Ronald J. Rozniak, P.A., V.E.
Pastor

Holy Name of Jesus Church

200 Midland Avenue • East Orange, New Jersey 07017 • Phone: (973) 675-4444

June 4, 2016

Mr. Michael R. Cusack
President
Guidance in Giving, Inc.
225 Snedecor Avenue
Bayport, New York 11705

Dear Mr. Cusack:

When we first began the We Are Living Stones campaign, it was with apprehension that I pondered the goal set forth for Holy Name of Jesus. It still comes as a pleasant surprise that pledges stand at \$151,895, 81% of goal.

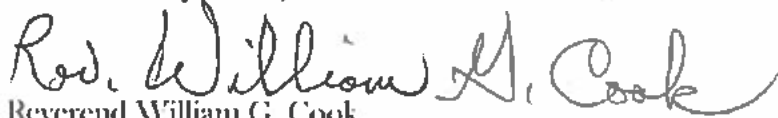
I am writing to submit a letter of recommendation for one Michael S. Rhodes, who recently assisted the parish of which I am the pastor (Holy Name of Jesus, New Jersey) in conducting a capital campaign.

Michael works for and represented Guidance in Giving, a fundraising firm that works exclusively with Catholic parishes, schools and institutions. I found Michael to be efficient, thorough and conscientious.

He was easy to work with, it was obvious that he knew what he was doing during the various phases of the campaign, and he was always professional in his dress as well as his conduct.

Our capital campaign was successful, and will enable us to maintain the parish buildings on our campus. We will always be grateful for the pivotal role that Michael Rhodes played in making the campaign the success that it was. I cannot recommend him highly enough.

Most Sincerely Yours,



Reverend William G. Cook

Pastor