

Please mail to: *Alternative Gifts International* • PO Box 3810 • Wichita, KS • 67201-3810

I would like to be added to your mailing list to receive future newsletters and catalogs.

Send me _____ free copies of this introductory brochure to share.

Send me _____ (up to 10) free copies of AGI's catalog ("My Shopping List for the World") to share.

I am very interested in hosting a Market. Send _____ Market Packet(s) with the instructional booklet "How to Create an Alternative Gift Market" at \$6.00 each. Enclosed is my check for U.S.\$ _____, or charge my Visa _____ MC _____ card number _____ Exp. date _____

Name _____ Email _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Postal Code _____

Organization _____ Phone (_____) _____

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed persons can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."
- Margaret Mead

••• *Why Alternative Giving?*

Because so many of the world's critical needs today are going unmet.

Because of our need and capacity to give generously.

Because Uncle Harry doesn't need yet another silk necktie.

••• *Why Alternative Gift Markets?*

Because they are a celebration of abundant life for all the world's people.

Because they are an appropriate nonprofit response to consumerism.

Because they have raised millions of dollars for the world's needs, nourishing peace in our global neighborhood.

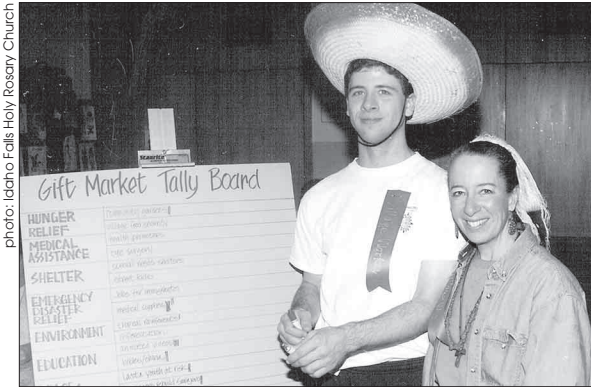


photo: Idaho Falls Holy Rosary Church

••• *Where Do Alternative Gift Donations Go?*

Each year AGI receives proposals from scores of reputable nonprofit organizations working in the U.S. and overseas for projects that meet strict standards of relevance and accountability. As many as thirty nonprofits are selected each year for AGI's "My Shopping List for the World" catalog. It is AGI's policy that funds received for alternative gifts are granted to its partner agencies as designated by donors. These agencies, in turn, guarantee that the grants will be used only as designated in their established projects. In this way, shoppers' wishes are strictly honored and they can actively participate in building a better world. AGI and its partner agencies are fully accountable for all funds received. AGI's audited financial statement is available upon request.

••• *Examples of Gifts from Past Projects:*

- \$20** ... purchased books for a class of ten Haitian students
- \$55** ... bought one baby llama for poor Bolivian farmers
- \$48** ... provided one year of care for a Chinese orphan

Alternative Gifts International



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“ We must become the *change* we want to



photo: IMAP

Change your world with an

Alternative Gift Market



●●● *What is an Alternative Gift Market?*

...a different kind of shopping experience! Gifts are purchased in honor of family members and friends in a market setting. Instead of buying another tie for Uncle Joe, a shopper at this market might decide to purchase medicine for refugee children in Afghanistan or provide a hot meal for a hungry-homeless American. Then, Uncle Joe receives a beautiful card explaining the unique present given in his honor.



●●● *Who can host an Alternative Gift Market?*

YOU can! Over 350 Markets in 43 states are held each year across the U.S. in partnership with Alternative Gifts International (AGI). They are hosted by dedicated volunteers in churches, schools, businesses or service organizations throughout the year. Colorful booths are set up to represent the various Alternative Gift projects. In addition, some markets choose to offer local projects, such as supporting an area food pantry, women's support organization or homeless shelter.



●●● *How do I get started?*

Just send in the attached order form and AGI will send you a "How To" Market Packet with complete instructions for starting an Alternative Gift Market. Additionally, you can request to be included on AGI's mailing list or to receive catalogs.

AGI will provide support with materials, posters, gift cards, publicity and much more. We can also put you in contact with other market builders in your area.

●●● *There are many types of Markets!*

Some Markets are hosted by volunteers at home or at an office party, where Alternative Gift catalogs and shopping lists are distributed. Gift cards may be purchased for the party or donors may send in their shopping list to AGI's home office where each card order will be promptly filled.

Schools and Colleges have found that hosting a Gift Market is a highly effective learning tool that engages students in a dialogue about global needs and international issues.

●●● *The global mission of Alternative Gifts International*

is to send authentic, life-giving gifts to a needy world - gifts that build a partnership with oppressed people in crisis and that protect and preserve the planet's environment - to nourish and sustain a more equitable and peaceful global community.

AGI is an interfaith, nonprofit agency. It raises funds each year for global gifts in its "Alternative Gift Markets" held nationwide and from individual donors. Designated grants then are sent to the established international projects of several reputable nonprofit agencies for relief and development.

●●● *More About AGI*

AGI was founded in 1980 by Harriet Pritchard, then Director of Children's Ministries at Pasadena Presbyterian Church in California. Since that time, AGI has grown from a single Alternative Market hosted by children and a handful of adults into an international nonprofit organization with markets in more than 350 churches, synagogues, schools, and businesses each year. Alternative Gift Markets have also been held in Europe and Asia.

In addition, thousands of individuals, churches and community organizations support AGI's mission. Since its incorporation in 1986 AGI has raised over 15 million dollars for the empowerment of the world's poorest citizens and the preservation of the planet's environment.

●●● *Here's what the Market builders have to say:*

"The best part about the Market is that it allows (us) to connect to people in communities around the world ... Shoppers can make a tangible difference in people's lives, and at the same time show their friends and loved ones how easy it is to support people in need."

- Erin McCreless, **Yale University Market**



"I think it (an alternative gift market) really helps kids and adults learn about global awareness. It promotes peace in the sense that it educates the people who work in the market and come to the market. They get information about these projects all over the world and learn about their brothers and sisters there."

- Kathy Weber, **Minneapolis Market**

"The Market is a perfect way to get into the real spirit of the season and to find gifts that not only honor special people on your gift list but help people in the world who aren't on anyone's gift list."

- Marilyn Harp, **City-Wide Market, Wichita, Kansas**

For more information call 1-800-842-2243, visit our website at www.altgifts.org or email our Markets Coordinator at agi@altgifts.org about building a market in your area.