

Report on Giving

FIT is supported almost entirely by giving, most of it from individual donors. Below is a summary of our largest givers in 2018: Most of the institutions were foundations or churches paying for the books that their members were using in our ministry.

2018 Largest Gifts		
Yearly Gift Size	Individuals	Institutions
>\$5,000	1	1*
>\$1,000	1	1
>\$500	3	3
>\$250	11	3
>\$199	7	0
>\$99	23	0
	46	7

*from Community Foundation of Sarasota County (the "Giving Challenge" with most of the \$6,665.01 proceeds the result of individual donors)

2018 Income Sources	
Donations	\$27,140.35
Sales*	\$9,293.96
Other	\$471.00
	\$36,905.31

Encouraging Giving Trends of 2018.

- An automatic monthly donation option was added to our website and the number of monthly contributors is slowly increasing, making a difference.
- The FIT board continues to take the lead in playing a major role in personal donations participation and amounts and providing matching funds.

2019 Events

Fundraisers

The Community Foundation of Sarasota County is not sponsoring a Giving Challenge this year. We are on our own. The dates of our own fundraisers are:

Online Fundraisers		
Event	Date	Goal
Spring	May 7	\$4,000
Fall	Dec 3	\$4,000

Could you sponsor a matching gift in one of our fundraisers this year? Contact the office at 941.799.4975. Matching funds have worked very well for us.

Leader Training Sessions

Sat Feb 2	Bradenton, FL
Th Apr 4	Bartow, FL
Sat May 4	Bradenton, FL*
Sat Aug 3	Bradenton, FL
Sat Nov 2	Bradenton, FL

*In-Person and Online

Online requirements: must register two weeks in advance, have both audio and video capabilities, must purchase, review, and have on hand one of the FIT curriculum facilitator guides during the session. World wide access is supported. Call the office.

Can't help by being a volunteer but would like to support our team by providing funds for their support and materials to facilitate with? You can now donate at www.familyintegrity.org and click on [Donate Now](#). One-time and monthly gifts accepted.

Tips for Effective Small-Group Discussion from our Leadership Course

COMMON 'BLOOPERS' THAT FACILITATORS SHOULD AVOID

Do not preach.

Preaching is not conducive to leading small group discussion. It stifles individual contributions and group processes that make the small group setting so effective.

Do not do most of the talking.

Your purpose is to “lead the orchestra”, not “play all the instruments” for them. If you are talking more than 50% of the time, you are talking too much.

Do not use the class to tell your story.

It is their story that they are most interested in. Let them tell it. Listen to them.

Do not answer your own questions.

The purpose of the course is to get group members to do their own thinking and solve their own problems.

Do not break confidentiality.

Agree that all people are to be shown respect and that no sensitive material will be shared outside the group without permission.

Do not let one or two persons dominate the group.

Simply ask someone else to speak now or say something non-threatening like “We would like to have another point of view” or “It is time to move on to the next item”. Do not seat the “talker” directly across from you because this will only reinforce his or her need to talk.

Do not rush to the next item because there is silence.

Some of the big questions we ask require thought and this may be the first time much thought has been given to them. Some of our biggest breakthroughs have occurred when facilitators were prepared for this awkward “wait time” experience and patiently gave the group a long enough time in which to respond.

Do not allow disrespect to be shown for any individual answer.

This can happen when one person opens up for the first time and is finally ready to talk after a lifetime of hiding it and another person comments that a person should “get over” talking about it and move ahead. Remind participants that all thoughts are welcome and respected and that this is not a debate session.

Do not offer advice.

This is not your role. Your role is to keep things on track, to listen and to get the group to do their own thinking and provide their own examples. A strength of our program is its focus on the needs expressed by the group, not on the facilitator.

Do not judge your success based on the first lesson.

Trust has to be built up before some people will open up. Our lesson progression gives people time to adjust. You may be surprised at the progress that people make by the third or fourth lesson, progress that was not evident at first.