

Game Changing Tests to Try Now

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What We are Going to Discuss Today:

How to **Design** a Test

How to **Pick** a Winner

Tests that are Making a **Difference**!

Questions





If You are Going to Test ... Do It Right!

- Determine what you are trying to achieve.
- Only test one thing at a time.
- Split your data proportionally and randomly.
- Test enough quantity to provide readable, replicable results.

How Do I Pick a Winner?

- Set a goal for the test i.e. have a hypothesis.
- Look at test results in relation to the desired goal:
 - Did you increase your response rate?
 - Did you increase your average gift?
 - Did you lower your costs?
 - Did you decrease your cost to acquire a donor?
- Was the test result statistically significant?
- Do no harm!

What is Game Changing?



Less = More?

- Meals on Wheels groups almost always do more than just serve meals.
- Will donors give more if they know they do more?
- This message test made it clear.



"Agency" Message Throughout the Package



Jim Steinruck Chief Executive Off

February 2012

Dear Supporter,

Every day Gus waits with anticipation.

From his front porch or living room chair he watches the activity on the street, eager for his nutritious meal from Senior Services of Snohomish County to arrive.

And every week - because of your support - Gus hears that familiar knock on the door.

"It's the highlight of my day," he always says.

Because of your generosity, Senior Services of Snohomish County will deliver more than 147,000 meals to elderly homebound seniors here in our community this year. It is a very special service that means the world to seniors like Gusseniors who would otherwise go hungry and not see a caring face for days.

Today, I ask for your continued support to help provide lifesaving food, friendship and other critical services to your homebound neighbors.



Jim Steinruck Chief Executive Officer

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Senior Services of Snohomish County - (Pacific Northwest)

	Qty Mailed	Gifts	% Resp	Gross	Ave Gift	Total Cost	Net
Control - MOW Message	3,599	413	11.48%	\$30,883	\$74.78	\$2,824	\$28,059
Test - Broader Agency Message	3,598	321	8.94%	\$20,228	\$63.01	\$2,824	\$17,404

Less = More (part 2)

Do You Always Need a Letter?

No Letter







+ The Results!

Testing Report

Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine

March 2013 Renewal #2

Control: Low Dollar Control Test: Low Dollar No Letter Test

Mail Date: 3/11/2013

First Gift: 3/25/2013 Number of Weeks: 44 Gifts Through: 1/31/2014 Days of Returns: 312

	Quantity	Gifts	%Resp	Gross	Avg Gift	Gross/M	Cost	Cost/M	Net	Net/M
Total March 2013 Rene	ewal #2									
Control	10,539	706	6.70%	\$19,309	\$27.35	\$1,832	\$5,623	\$534	\$13,686	\$1,299
Test	10,539	751	7.13%	\$22,336	\$29.74	\$2,119	\$4,451	\$422	\$17,885	\$1,697
90% Confidenc	e Interval	6.	55% - 7.70 9	6	\$	1,948 - \$2,29	91		\$1	1,526 - \$1,869

And again ... No Letter

□ \$15	□ \$20	□ \$35	□ \$50	□ \$100	□ \$250	☐ Ot	her \$	VIII.
— \$15	_	_ \$33			Please m	ake your check paya	ble to The Wilderness stribution, fill in the info	
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ach here					Email Addi	ess		

Member Confirmation
Form Inside



ast vigorously oppose e for wilderness again!

2014 MEMBER

The Results!

- New streamlined package provided:
 - 20% lift in response rate
 - 17% savings in cost

Tested into decal (vs. bookmark, and sticker)

More = More?

One group found that adding certain design elements to the OE and reply form lifted response and average gift.

Could adding more make it even better?

Added Artwork



1730 Rhade Island Ave. NW, 1ltn Floor • Washington, DC 20036 • PO. Box 96897 • Washington, DC 20090-6897 Tool fee 1,888,725,4801 • www.RIF and

(over, please)

de, magic carpets, and much, much more.

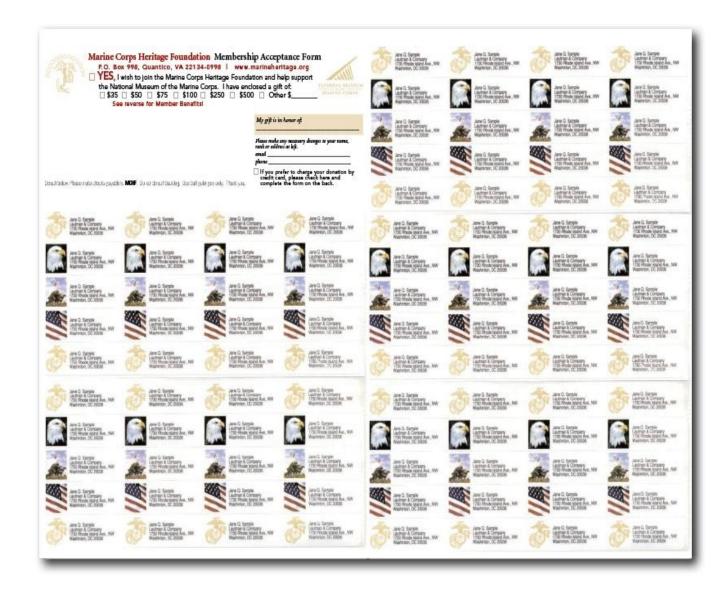
+ The Results!

Segment	Quantity Mailed	Resp.	Percent Response	Gross Revenue	Ave Gift	Cost Per Thousand	Cost Per Segment	Net Income	% Cost Recovered
Low \$ Control	4,643	275	5.92%	\$9,567	\$34.79	\$731	\$3,392	\$6,175	282.05%
\$100+ Control	1,057	45	4.26%	\$7,105	\$157.89	\$992	\$1,048	\$6,057	677.82%
	5,700	320	5.61%	\$16,672	\$52.10	\$779	\$4,440	\$12,232	375.48%
Low \$ Letter Art Test	4,643	278	5.99%	\$9,217	\$33.15	\$731	\$3,392	\$5,825	271.73%
\$100+ Letter Art Test	1,057	52	4.92%	\$9,790	\$188.27	\$992	\$1,048	\$8,742	933.98%
	5,700	330	5.79%	\$19,007	\$57.60	\$779	\$4,440	\$14,567	428.07%

More = More (part 2)

 One group had always used two sheets of labels but wanted to reduce cost.

Could They Eliminate One Sheet?



+ Results!

Package Description	Quantity Mailed	Resp.	Percent Response				Cost Per Segment		% Cost Recovered
Control	87,833	1,074	1.22%	\$29,849	\$27.79	\$509	\$44,749	(\$14,900)	66.70%
Single Sheet	87,820	922	1.05%	\$28,726	\$31.16	\$443	\$38,915	(\$10,188)	73.82%

Close a Window = Open a Door

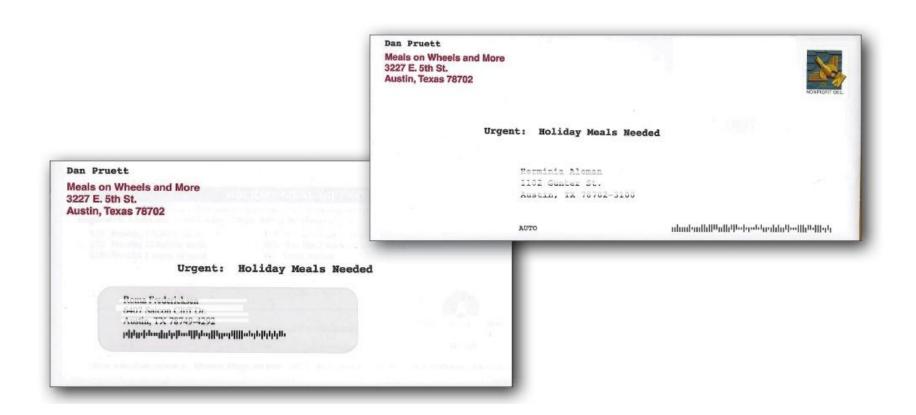
 Package and list fatigue were dragging down a longstanding control.

 Numerous tests (message, ask amounts, personalized teaser) failed to make a difference.

One simple change finally worked:



Closed Face Envelope





+ The Results!

Testing Report

Meals on Wheels & More (Austin)

November 2012 Acquisition

Control: Control Test: Test - Closed Faced OE

Mail Date: 11/2/2012

First Gift: 11/8/2012 Number of Weeks: 39 Gifts Through: 8/8/2013 Days of Returns: 273

	Quantity	Gifts	%Resp	Gross	Avg Gift	Gross/M	Cost	Cost/M	Net	Net/M	CTA
Total November 2012	Acquisition										
Control	44,217	417	0.94%	\$24,041	\$57.65	\$544	\$17,089	\$386	\$6,951	\$157	(\$16.67)
Test	44,217	554	1.25%	\$34,771	\$62.76	\$786	\$17,952	\$406	\$16,819	\$380	(\$30.36)
90% Confidenc	e Interval	1.1	14% - 1.379	%		\$714 - \$8 59	9			(\$3.	3.10) - (\$27.06)

Close a Window = Open a Door (part 2)

Premium package plagued by low value giving.

 Can we wean prospects away from the premium with a closed face envelope?



Closed Face Envelope/Fewer Labels







+ The Results!

Testing Report

Bnai Brith Youth Organization

September 2013 Acquisition

Control: Full Sheet Address Labels Test: Half Sheet Address Labels

Mail Date: 9/11/2013

First Gift: 10/3/2013 Number of Weeks: 17 Gifts Through: 1/30/2014 Days of Returns: 119

	Quantity	Gifts	%Resp	Gross	Avg Gift	Gross/M	Cost	Cost/M	Net	Net/M	CTA
Total September 2013	Acquisition	1									
Control	40,224	289	0.72%	\$6,330	\$21.90	\$157	\$16,480	\$410	(\$10,150)	(\$252)	\$35.12
Test	40,224	272	0.68%	\$7,247	\$26.64	\$180	\$17,358	\$432	(\$10,111)	(\$251)	\$37.17
90% Confidence	e Interval	0.5	58% - 0.77 %	i		\$154 - \$206	5			\$2	9.18 - \$47.84

So Many Ways to Ask ...

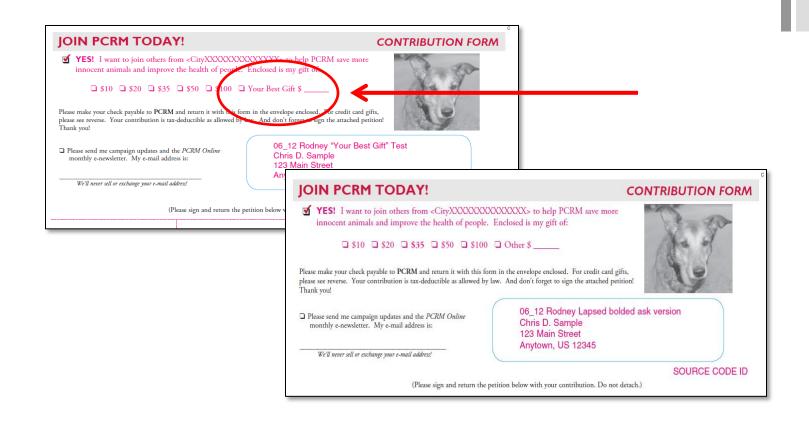
There are almost as many ask strategies as organizations.

It pays to keep trying new ones!

Here are four that made a difference:



"Other" vs "Your Best Gift"





+ The Results!

Testing Report

Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine

June 2012 Acquisition

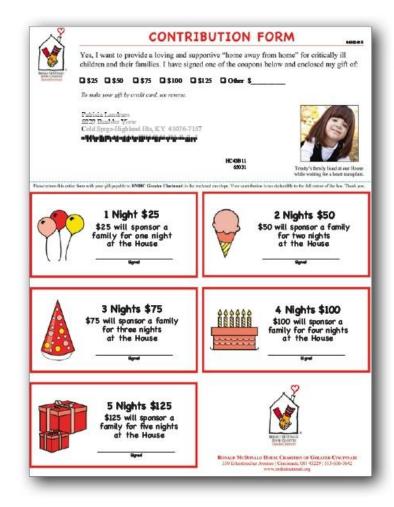
Control: Rodney Control Test: Your Best Gift Ask Test

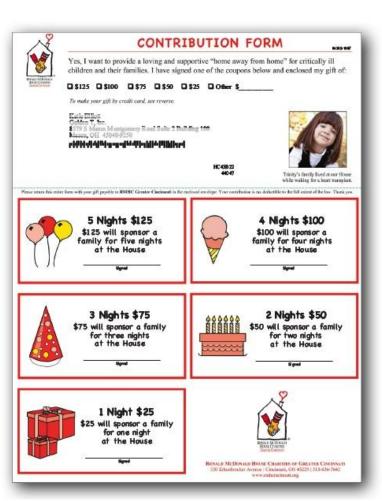
Mail Date: 6/6/2012

First Gift: 6/18/2012 Number of Weeks: 82 Gifts Through: 1/16/2014 Days of Returns: 577

	Quantity	Gifts	%Resp	Gross	Avg Gift	Gross/M	Cost	Cost/M	Net	Net/M	CTA
Total June 2012 Acquis	ition										
Control	42,661	348	0.82%	\$6,224	\$17.89	\$146	\$13,961	\$327	(\$7,737)	(\$181)	\$22.23
Test	42,661	365	0.86%	\$7,425	\$20.34	\$174	\$13,961	\$327	(\$6,536)	(\$153)	\$17.91
90% Confidenc	e Interval	0.	75% - 0.96%	5		\$153 - \$195	5			\$1	3.80 - \$23.13

Up or Down?







The Results!

Testing Report

Ronald McDonald House Charities of Greater Cincinnati

November 2013 Acquisition

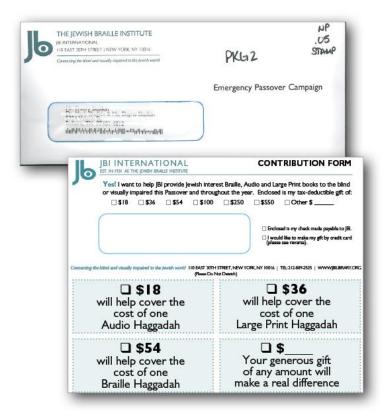
Control: Cincinnati Control Test: Cincinnati Descending Ask Line Test

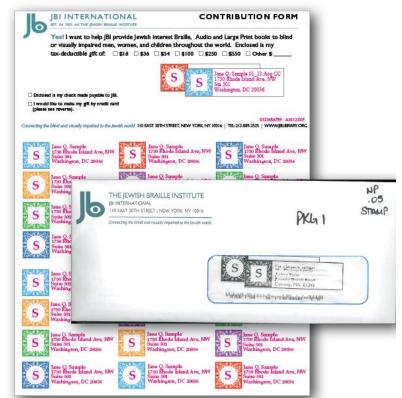
Mail Date: 10/28/2013

First Gift: 11/15/2013 Number of Weeks: 6 Gifts Through: 12/31/2013 Days of Returns: 46

90% Confidenc	e Interval	0.6	6 1% - 0.8 5%			\$309 - \$433				(\$6	.01) - \$11.95
Test	25,238	184	0.73%	\$9,366	\$50.90	\$371	\$9,637	\$382	(\$271)	(\$11)	\$1.47
Control	25,234	164	0.65%	\$8,192	\$49.95	\$325	\$9,635	\$382	(\$1,443)	(\$57)	\$8.80
Total November 2013	Acquisition										
	Quantity	Gifts	%Resp	Gross	Avg Gift	Gross/M	Cost	Cost/M	Net	Net/M	CTA

Tis' The Season?







+ The Results!

Testing Report

JBI International

February 2013 Acquisition

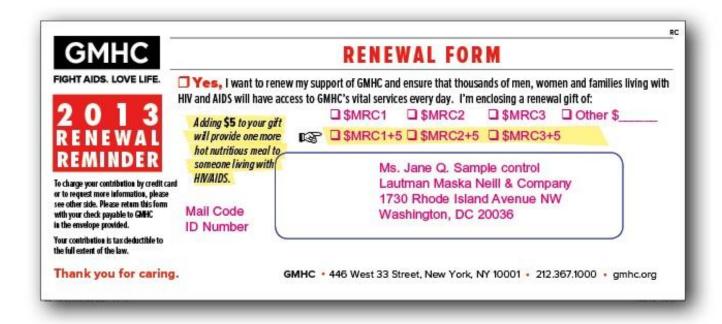
Control: Labels Control Test: Hagaddah Package Test

Mail Date: 2/7/2013

First Gift: 1/14/2013 Number of Weeks: 52 Gifts Through: 1/16/2014 Days of Returns: 367

	Quantity	Gifts	%Resp	Gross	Avg Gift	Gross/M	Cost	Cost/M	Net	Net/M	CTA
Total February 2013 Ad	equisition										
Control	59,431	349	0.59%	\$7,357	\$21.08	\$124	\$21,725	\$366	(\$14,368)	(\$242)	\$41.17
Test	59,431	356	0.60%	\$9,051	\$25.42	\$152	\$18,465	\$311	(\$9,414)	(\$158)	\$26.44
90% Confidenc	e Interval	0.5	53% - 0.67%			\$134 - \$171	<u>l</u>			\$2	0.78 - \$33.70

Would Donors Give Just \$5 More?





+ The Results!

Testing Report

Gay Men's Health Crisis

March 2011 Renewal #2/Appeal

Control: Under \$250 Control (Renewal) Test: Under \$250 Ask "Plus \$5" Test (Renewal)

Mail Date: 3/11/2011

First Gift: 3/22/2011 Number of Weeks: 42 Gifts Through: 1/11/2012 Days of Returns: 295

	Quantity	Gifts	%Resp	Gross	Avg Gift	Gross/M	Cost	Cost/M	Net	Net/M
Total March 2011 Rene	ewal #2/Ap	peal								
Control	8,346	437	5.24%	\$18,837	\$43.10	\$2,257	\$3,263	\$391	\$15,573	\$1,866
Test	8,345	443	5.31%	\$21,471	\$48.47	\$2,573	\$3,263	\$391	\$18,208	\$2,182
90% Confidenc	e Interval	4.	74% - 5.889	6	\$	2,296 - \$2,8	50		\$1	1,905 - \$2,459

Other Testing Ideas

- Outer envelopes: to tease or not to tease keep asking the question!
- Font size: sometimes size does matter.
- Premiums and freemiums: does it pay to give it away?
- Member versus supporter.
- Personalization: how much is too much?

One Last Winner!

- One organization was only successful with internal prospecting, but it was flagging.
- The last acquisition in 2011 yielded a \$90 cost per new donor.
- Organization investing in data append that helped them "find" 29,000 long-ago alumni addresses.
- Did it make a difference?

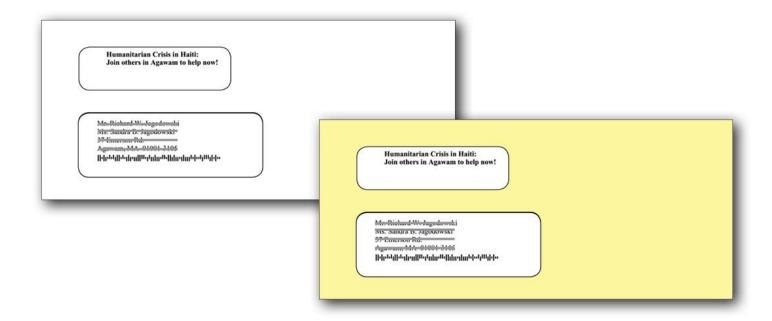
Prospect Alumni Kit



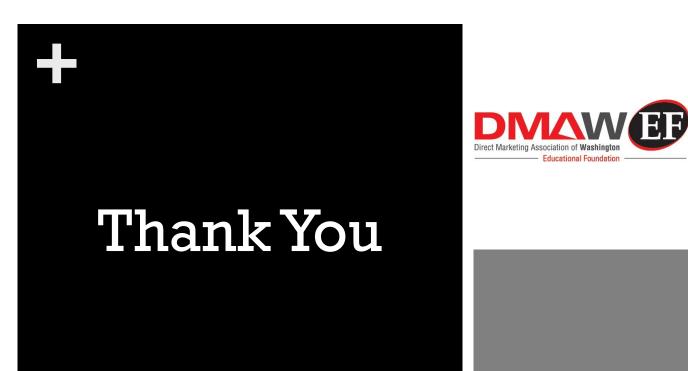
The Results!

- Investing in the new data enabled the organization to acquire 470 new donors at breakeven.
- Not truly a test but worth a try for alumni type internal prospects.

One Cautionary Tale



 Using a yellow OE to call attention to an emergency campaign dropped the response rate 12.5% and the average gift by 8%





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