

Raising Funds, UUSO Policy

Approved by the BOT and reviewed by Stewardship and Fundraising Committee on June 22, 2022

1. The Congregation may vote to have the Stewardship and Fundraising Committee raise money toward special projects to benefit UUSO or other organizations that support our Principles, Mission, and Vision.
2. The Board of Trustees may adopt additional methods of raising money in coordination with the Stewardship and Fundraising Committee for the benefit of UUSO such as, but not limited to, capital campaigns, grants, and a year-end or special appeal. Any member, committee or team wishing to hold a fundraising event should submit a proposal to the Stewardship and Fundraising Committee.
3. The Stewardship and Fundraising Committee, with the oversight of the Board and in coordination with the Finance Committee, conducts the annual Stewardship Campaign to receive financial pledges from UUSO members and friends to support the UUSO operating budget. It also conducts the year-end appeal to raise funds for special projects approved by the Board, which may also include funds for the Endowment Committee's Community Fund.
4. A Youth Group wishing to raise funds for their own program should coordinate with Religious Education leadership and the Stewardship and Fundraising Committee when planning fundraising projects.
5. There are no other people or entities at UUSO that may approve or determine the means by which money is raised through UUSO for any purpose (See Note*). Any member or friend may submit a proposal to the Stewardship and Fundraising Committee to raise money through UUSO.
6. The Finance Committee, with input from the Board, may raise funds through loans from outside resources for special projects, pursuant to the Bylaws.
7. The minister in coordination with the Stewardship and Fundraising Committee may facilitate a special collection or fundraising event for the benefit of those affected by natural disasters or humanitarian crises.

***NOTE:**

- The Endowment Committee, guided by its bylaws, raises money from UUSO members and friends for the Endowment Funds, including the Love, Alice Fund (planned giving), Mara Kern Fund, future funds to be named, and the Community Fund. The Community Fund awards grants to support UUSO's Principles, Mission, and Vision to UUSO committees and teams and to local nonprofit organizations through an annual grant application process.
- The Endowment Committee invests the Mali Education Fund, which is managed by the Mali Education Project Team to support education projects in Mali. The Mali Education Project Team raises funds through requests for donations and tuition sponsorship independently of the Stewardship and Fundraising Committee.
- The Year-end Appeal was established as an annual fundraising mailing to request donations from UUSO members and friends for specific projects or events of committees and teams that were not part of the annual budget. These named funds are established for specific projects or events such as the purchase of equipment or furnishings (example: chairs for the sanctuary), building improvements, or special speaker or community events. The appeal is also used to solicit gifts for the Community (Endowment) Fund. There is an option on the donation form to indicate whether some or all the donation is to be used for whichever approved projects have the greatest need for additional funds. Note added 8.5.22