UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP OF HUNTINGTON

FUNDRAISING POLICY

Approved initially February 28, 2011, revised/approved November 17, 2026

GENERAL POLICIES FOR FUNDRAISERS

1. Funds to support the UUFH shall be derived from pledge payments, the portion of the Sunday collection designated to UUFH, and recurring fundraisers such as the Auction Gala and Pumpkin Patch. The Board of Trustees shall permit other fundraising events by prior approval.

2. Proceeds of all fundraisers to support the UUFH shall go into the Fellowship's General Operating Fund. Committees, Sub-Committees, Teams, and other Fellowship groups shall be funded from the Operating Fund and shall not fundraise for their own purposes.

3. Events (social, educational, etc.) shall be self-supporting and shall not be considered fundraisers. Any excess proceeds shall be added to the General Operating Fund. Any deficit will be charged to the sponsoring group's budget line.

4. The Board of Trustees recognizes that frequent requests for donations can become onerous to a congregation and result in fundraising fatigue. Therefore, special attention will be paid to the timing of fundraisers in an attempt to minimize competition among worthy fundraisers.

5. Fellowship fundraisers are always optional to our members. No one should feel obligated to donate.

6. Only the Board of Trustees is authorized to approve a fundraiser on behalf of the Congregation. This includes the use of third-party fundraising tools, including but not limited to GoFundMe.

7. In all cases where the fundraiser will occur in the UUFH building or property, the 2026 Building Use Policy & Procedures for UUFH Committees must be followed.

POLICY FOR FUNDRAISERS IN SUPPORT OF THE FELLOWSHIP

1. Any group planning a fundraiser in support of the Fellowship must seek the Board of Trustees' approval. Groups should present their proposal in writing to their chair, who will present the proposal to the Past President (Ministry Committees) or the Minister (Ministry Committees) for submission to the Board of Trustees. Approval should be sought at least six weeks prior to the proposed event whenever possible. Approval will be based on financial integrity, calendar availability, and any competing fundraisers that may be occurring concurrently.

2. Any fundraiser that involves expending operating funds or risks their loss will require that a fundraiser budget be submitted with the request for the fundraiser. Consideration will be given to fundraisers where the expenses have already been budgeted to the committee in the fiscal year budget.

POLICY FOR WORSHIP SERVICE COLLECTIONS TO SUPPORT OUTSIDE ORGANIZATIONS

1. The Sunday collection (plate) is comprised of undesignated anonymous cash and electronic donations designated to Split Plate. Each month, these funds will be split equally between the General Operating Fund and whichever charity has been designated by the Split Plate Committee for that month. Cash, checks, and electronic donations may also be designated to be given entirely to either the Fellowship or the charity.

2. Any Fellowship member may nominate an outside charity to be a Split Plate Charity of the month. The Split Plate Committee shall solicit and determine each month's Split Plate Charity of the Month in accordance with their charter.

3. Special collections to solicit funds for any other purpose must have prior approval from the Board of Trustees. These collections may include, but are not limited to, Chalice Lighters, UUA, and UUSC Emergency Appeals.

POLICY FOR SPECIAL FUNDRAISERS SPONSORED BY FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEES FOR OUTREACH PURPOSES

1. All requests to hold a fundraiser or collection of goods and/or services, where the recipient is an organization that is not the UUFH or a UU organization, must be sponsored by a committee, sub-committee, team, or Religious Education class/group. Groups should present their proposal in writing to their Chair, who will present the proposal to the Past President (Governance Committees) or the Minister (Ministry Committees) for submission to the Board of Trustees. Approval should be sought at least six weeks prior to the proposed event whenever possible.

2. Any fundraiser that involves expending operating funds or risks their loss will require that a fundraiser budget be submitted with the request for fundraiser. Consideration will be given to fundraisers where the expenses have already been budgeted to the committee in the fiscal year budget.

3. The Board of Trustees will evaluate fundraising requests with particular attention paid to vetting, in detail, the recipient organization and the aims of the project in terms of its alignment with UU values and goals. If approved, the request will be sent to the Finance Committee for evaluation of its financial integrity and calendar availability before final approval.

4. Approval also depends on committees following the 2026 Building Use Policy & Procedures for UUFH Committees.