

# Chinese Bible Church of Greater Boston Fund Raising Policy

Pastoral Staff-03 (Rev. 1)  
09 Sep 2007

## **Purposes:**

1. To define clearly “fund-raising” for CBCGB.
2. To promote the Biblical principles of stewardship to the members.
3. To ensure that members may enjoy creative fund-raising activities while having confidence that they are being accountable.

## **The policy:**

1. “Fund-raisers” are any activities, organized by one or more CBCGB members and taking place on the church campus, that invite the church-at-large to financially assist a particular CBCGB ministry effort.
  - 1.1 A CBCGB fellowship may “adopt” a specific, approved missionary and support that missionary exclusively if the funds are collected just from that fellowship.
  - 1.2 The proceeds of any approved fund-raiser that was collected from the church-at-large must be deposited with the church treasurer and distributed according to the guidelines established for the fund-raising events.
2. An organization or individual that does not have the church’s approval may not raise funds or sell services on the church campus.
  - 2.1 A CBCGB individual or fellowship group may not raise funds from or sell services to the church-at-large on behalf of a non-CBCGB supported organization or individual.
  - 2.2 A CBCGB individual or fellowship group may not raise funds from the church-at-large if the money collected will be used to finance his/her/its own internal activity.
3. A fellowship may collect reasonable fees – for logistical or administrative purposes - from its members and deposit the sum in its own account.
4. The senior pastor or the lead Chinese/English/Youth pastor of the respective congregation in the absence of the senior pastor will be the point of contact (POC) for receiving and processing fund-raiser requests. This POC and the lead of the ministry for which the requested fund-raiser is intended will jointly evaluate and determine if the criteria set forth in this policy are met and can turn down the request for a fund-raiser. The POC shall inform the Board of Elders of any fund-raising request and the decision.

### **Some Biblical references:**

1 Corinthians 16:2-3

“On the first day of the week let each one of you lay something aside, storing up as he may prosper. Then, when I arrive, I will give letters of introduction to the men you approve and send them with your gift to Jerusalem.”

*Encourages believers to support the advancement of the Gospel through tithes and offerings.  
Introduces intentionality and methodology to the concept of Christian giving.*

2 Corinthians 9:6-8

“Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.”

*Praises generosity in giving, which demonstrates a trust in God's ability to provide for the giver.  
Reminds the church that giving should be an enjoyable and edifying experience.*

Matthew 21:12-13

“Jesus entered the temple area and drove out all who were buying and selling there. He overturned the tables of the money changers and the benches of those selling doves. It is written," he said to them, my house will be called a house of prayer, but you are making it a den of robbers."

*Reminds people that the church campus is a not a place for secular money transactions.*

## Scenarios for the policy:

Example for point 1:

(Historical) The Youth/Parent Association, in conjunction with the Taiwan Missions Team, has hosted the Mother's Day luncheon for many years. The church-at-large has been invited during worship announcements, a sign-up table in the lobby, and by word of mouth. Participants enjoy the event fully knowing that their money will directly support the TMT effort, a CBCGB-sanctioned ministry.

Example for point 1.1:

(Hypothetical) Charis Fellowship, because of their relationship with the Ro's in China, may wish to support their ministry in a greater way. Charis members understand and agree with CBCGB's missions policy which distributes mission funds in pre-determined amounts. However, they wish to add to the Ro's support. This policy will encourage them to do so, but they may only solicit this additional support from within Charis itself.

Example for point 1.2:

(Principle) Depositing funds with the church's treasurer (presumably in the General Fund) may create additional work for our financial team. However, it can be considered a necessary safeguard in promoting accountability and trust-worthiness within our church and between members.

Example for point 2:

(Historical) Several years ago, a para-church organization asked about setting up tables in our lobby to sell books and small items to raise funds to support its operation. Our church declined that request on the grounds that the church did not officially recognize/support that organization and that such an event would be incompatible with the atmosphere of worship in the church.

Example for point 2.1:

(Principle) The church may prohibit unofficial activities on campus or within CBCGB gatherings, but would be unable to deny private or off-campus solicitations performed by organizations or individuals.

Example for point 2.2:

(Historical) The YPA has for several years organized the manufacture and sale of floral corsages in support of the TMT effort. The YPA continued this popular practice this year even though TMT is on hiatus; therefore, the money raised had no official destination. A suggestion to use this money to support YPA's activities was turned down because its original intent was to support missions. Point 3 therefore continues to invite fellowships to creatively support church ministries without creating a situation where doubt or mistrust may ensue.

Example for point 3:

(Principle) Many fellowship groups within the church have over the years raised funds or collected fees from its members to finance its activities. Point 4 is a counterbalance to point 3; the church would not want to unreasonably restrict a fellowship's operations or overly burden the church treasurer. This point allows each fellowship group to maintain a certain amount of autonomy over funds that it collects internally.

Example for point 4:

(Principle) This point establishes a process by which an individual or a group may request for permission to raise funds on campus or with a fellowship. The lead pastor of the ministry most closely associated with each request would be the point of contact.