

## Youth Group Fundraising Ideas

Youth Group fundraising with Equal Exchange is a great way for youth to raise funds, engage further in their religious communities, and to explore how to make big change in how trade is done.

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- **Themed Event:** Focus on one main theme for an educational event open to the larger community to fundraise, raise awareness, and have a great time. Example: *Cocoa Convergence*: present and discuss child slavery versus Fair Trade in the cocoa industry, show videos of children of CONOCADO farmers in the Dominican Republic, and sell Equal Exchange chocolate products and small packets of Organic Dark Chocolate Minis as gifts that people can give, especially during holidays. Look at both the curriculum and videos at: [www.equalexchange.coop/interfaith-fundraising-youth](http://www.equalexchange.coop/interfaith-fundraising-youth).
  - **Art:** Create a work of art in the form of a banner or mural representing the connections between the small-scale farmer communities Equal Exchange partners with, the environment, the youth group members, and your religious community. Place the work of art in a public place in your community. Fundraise nearby and talk with people about its meaning.
  - **Music:** Write song lyrics about Fair Trade, visions of cooperation, or injustices and how we can address them. Focus by using specific musical styles, such as hip-hop or acoustic folk, by adding instruments, or having youth write lyrics to melodies of a song they like. Perform the songs at a youth talent show where Equal Exchange products are available for fundraising.
  - **Co-operation:** Team up with an immigrant ministry center's youth organization to participate in a joint fundraiser. Have gatherings to get to know one another better and learn about Fair Trade during the fundraising period.
  - **Bake Sale:** After an event or services, sample or sell baked goods made with Equal Exchange products that people can also purchase. Check out our online recipe webpage at [www.equalexchange.coop/interfaith-fundraising-food](http://www.equalexchange.coop/interfaith-fundraising-food) for ideas.
  - **Smoothie Sampler:** Have a smoothie contest at a meeting using Equal Exchange's fairly traded products, including our fairly traded Organic Drinking Chocolate, Organic Spicy Hot Cocoa Mix, Organic Green Tea, any of our many coffees, Organic Chai Tea, and Organic Sugar Packets. Sample and sell your favorites to the community and sell the Equal Exchange ingredients that are in the smoothies!
  - **Community Interaction:** Hand out Organic Dark Chocolate Minis with little information flyers in a busy part of town or after an event or services and sell products nearby.
  - **Education:** Education is an important part of any Fair Trade fundraiser. We have many educational resources available on our website [www.equalexchange.coop/interfaith-educational-resources](http://www.equalexchange.coop/interfaith-educational-resources).

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Let us know your fundraising ideas and what you are up to! We love receiving pictures, stories, and your thoughts. E-mail: [interfaith@equalexchange.coop](mailto:interfaith@equalexchange.coop)

