TOGETHER WOMEN RISE
Collective action for global gender equality

Chapter Donations Policy

Together Women Rise harnesses the power of collective giving. Chapter and individual donations are combined to support our mission to achieve global gender equality. All donations are combined and used to fund:

- our grants and partnerships and grants oversight
- our member engagement opportunities
- support for both new and existing chapters
- a highly competent and experienced staff to carry out Rise's mission
- administrative expenses required to manage and sustain the organization in a high-impact manner

Giving is a vital part of our chapter model. All Together Women Rise chapters are expected to promote and encourage giving at their meetings, and to adhere to the following donation principles. In order to ensure a consistent member experience across all chapters:

- Rise's learning and community building programs are available to everyone; however a "member" is defined as someone who makes an annual gift to the organization.
- Individuals are encouraged to give what they can based on their own financial situation; there is no minimum donation required. With our collective giving model, all contributions and levels of giving are valued and have an impact.

Chapter Leader Role in Fundraising

The chapter leader role is:

- to **become a member** of Together Women Rise by making an annual gift
- to **invite** and **inspire** their chapter members to contribute to Rise's mission at all their chapter meetings
- to **inform** their chapter members about the various ways that they can give in support of Rise's mission (e.g. monthly recurring gifts, tribute gifts, Donor Advised Funds, legacy giving, etc.)
- to encourage members to discuss their giving with a professional financial advisor, where appropriate
- to **reinforce** the national office's communications about fundraising campaigns, such as its annual appeal, by sharing these campaigns with their chapter members and encourage participation
- to **collect** donations made at their chapter meetings
- to **submit** all donations to Rise's national office, as outlined in the organization's Donations Handling Guidelines

Chapter leaders cannot:

- **require** meeting attendees to give as a condition of participation in the chapter
- **require** a chapter member to give a set amount or in a specific manner
- **single out** an individual member for a conversation about the member's specific giving levels
- **solicit** specific donation amounts from members or others (outside of approved chapter fundraisers)
- **provide tax or financial advice regarding a member's giving choices**

A chapter leader may, on occasion, identify or become aware of a chapter member, individual, or company that could be interested in supporting Rise at a higher level (i.e. becoming a Founders' Circle member or a major donor). **Chapter leaders are asked to provide this information to Rise staff who are professionals in nonprofit fund development and are solely responsible for soliciting specific donations and cultivating donors.**

Chapter leaders are asked to contact our CEO, Beverley Francis-Gibson, or our Development Director, Kaitlyn Grigsby-Hall.

Chapter Fundraisers

Rise chapters **are encouraged to** hold or conduct a special fundraising event or activity to support Rise's mission – outside of their monthly chapter meetings. Chapter fundraisers are not required but can be a successful and fun way to support our mission, while also building connections and community within and across chapters.

As a registered, 501(c)(3) organization, Together Women Rise must adhere to all applicable nonprofit fundraising and tax laws. Since chapter leaders are representatives of our organization, it is essential that they follow all fundraising guidelines set by Rise, which are intended to ensure our full compliance with laws and regulations. Failure to do so could have a negative impact on the organization and its nonprofit status.

When planning a fundraiser, chapters are required to:

- Receive prior approval from Rise's national office for any fundraising event or activity, by submitting this form.
- Adhere to all of Rise's Chapter Fundraising Guidelines.
- Receive prior approval for using the Rise logo in any way.
- Cooperate and work with Rise staff, as appropriate.

Updated by Together Women Rise board of directors on April 25, 2026.