

## GPA - More Fundraising!?

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This Monday, our New Jersey team was back on the frontline! This fundraiser was a project that our cafe team had been thinking about for a while. We wanted to raise funds to help out with the little cafe that the New Jersey church is planning to make in one of the rooms in the building. Oliver, who works with the youth ministry here and is in charge of the cafe, wants to provide a place where people can come to enjoy some tea and coffee, spend time together, display and share artwork, and become closer as a community. And we thought it'd be a great way to give back to the community by donating \$1000 to this awesome project. We also needed extra funds to pay for the activities we plan to do, like Camp Shehaqua. But we didn't want to just fundraise the way we've been doing all year; we wanted to do something different and have fun with it. So we decided to fundraise with home-made cookies with cute little baskets and aprons. So on Sunday, after hearing Uncle Gerry Servito's amazing sermon, we got right to work with the cookies. It literally took all day long to bake and wrap the 500 cookies we needed for the fundraiser. But for me, it was a lot of fun being able to work on something together as a whole NJ team, and as part of the cafe team, I was really grateful for everyone's support.

The next morning, we all woke up at 6:30, did our usual morning routine, and we were back on the frontline again. We basically fundraised all day, but personally, it didn't even feel that long. Many of us were able to have a lot of fun fundraising with the cookies in our cute little outfits. And most importantly, we knew that by going out, we were making a huge contribution to the church that we came to serve. For me, it was a good reminder of what our purpose is during this community outreach. I really want to leave a lasting impact on the NJ community, and I feel that the fundraiser was a big step in accomplishing that goal. In the end, we raised a total of over \$3600, which we're going to donate to the cafe and other parts of ministry. Thank you NJ GPA team for all your hard work!