HOW:

* Bring the Retail or Organization Letter with you and ask to speak to the manager, the head of the organization, or a representative who could then pass the information on to the appropriate people.

My Name is [KRISTINA.] I’m with the Quincy Fair Trade Task Force and we are a collaboration of businesses, schools, churches, organizations and community members working together to help Quincy join cities like Boston in promoting social and economic justice by way of creating more opportunities for people to purchase Fair Trade products.

Are you familiar with Fair Trade?

-OR-

I’ve seen that you already carry a number of Fair Trade products already

As a RETAILER:

* You may or may not know this, but the number of people looking to purchase Fair Trade products has been on the rise by 15% or more every year since 2006. There are many people now who choose where they will shop based on whether or not they can feel like their purchases support fair wages and work environments around the world.
* Consumers are showing that they are willing to cover the costs associated with advocating for fairer practices. And some people are even deciding not to purchase products that aren’t fair trade when they know they can get a fair trade version elsewhere. (Bananas, Coffee, Jewelry, even T-shirts)

As a CHURCH:

* It’s become increasingly important to people to think about what it means to love our neighbor. Even the person who harvests our coffee beans, though we usually never meet these people, are our neighbors.

As an Organization:

* Caring about the treatment of others is what we do every day.
* Our purchases have power to make a big statement about how we feel about unfair treatment and wages in the world.
* Retailers can’t sell what we won’t buy and what we won’t offer to others.

The reality is: We have a lot of purchasing power. The US makes up only 5% of the world’s population but we consume 29% of the resources. Our purchases have the power to set the world free.

There’s an increasing number of vendors offering these products.

Equal Exchange and Fair Trade USA are great places to start.

THE ASK:

And so as a Task Force, we are in the middle of a campaign to see Quincy become a Fair Trade City.

* It doesn’t cost anything for you to join us in that.
* Any business or organization that is offering at least 2 fair trade products qualifies to be listed from our page on the Fair Trade Campaigns website.
  + That’s free advertising for you.
  + When people are searching for these things, your establishment can be found.
  + And given that this is a long-term campaign for us, whenever we are participating in an event, it allows others to see that you have chosen to be a part of this because we continually will make known all the places who have taken this step towards a freer world.
  + So it’s networking for all of us.

NEXT STEPS: For those saying yes:

* + Name of Organization
  + Address, Phone, Website
  + Their About information
  + Email address and Name for a contact person
  + What 2 products (name of product, type of product, picture if they have/want one, and WHICH organization their product is certified by. EX: Fair Trade USA, Fair Trade Federation, etc)

CLOSING LAST STEPS:

We are always looking for people who would be willing to help the task force further this work here in Quincy.

* Do you happen to know of other businesses/organizations you think would be interested?
* Would anyone from your team/organization be interested in being on the task force to help us continue to invite others in Quincy to join in?

Thank you for your time!

Just so that we can keep the website listing up to date, we’ll check in from time to time to see if you’ve added any Fair Trade products to what you offer.