

**REPLACEMENT ITEM 11**

**RECOMMENDATION FROM HISPANIC MINISTRIES**

Name of board, agency, **Comité de Ministerios Hispanos-Latinos**committee.

Number on agency 21. Number present when voting 15

Number voting for 15 Number voting against 0

Number abstaining 0 Date adopted 4-1-2009

Number of meetings held 4

**Background:**

Due to the decline in the financial markets and to long term commitments in staffing our churches the Endowment for Hispanic Ministries has reduced in value \$400,000 below its original investment. In response to our ongoing financial crisis the Hispanic Ministries Committee met with the Bishop and Cabinet to come up with a financial plan to protect the Endowment without shutting down essential ministries. We came up with four core courses of action.

**1. Get started with the National Hispanic Plan.**

- a. This over time will bring some national resources and help with our vision and Conference Plan. We recognize that funding may not be available to us until late 2009 or early 2010.

**2. Organize a group of individuals to begin looking for Grants** from a variety of agencies, including but not restricted to:

- a. the Conference Board of Missions, the General Commission on Religion and Race, The General Boards of Higher Education and Ministries, Conference Board of Ordained Ministry Conference Camping as well as other agencies as they present themselves.
- b. Funding will probably be available late in 2009 and early into 2010.
- c. **Recommend appropriate cuts in our 2009 and 2010 budgets** that would enable us continue our mission with a minimum of disruption to our churches and ministries and by assigning bilingual pastors whenever possible to serve churches with both English speaking and Spanish speaking congregations.

If all these recommendations are taken we believe that we can, by the end of 2009 balance our budget and keep most of our ministries going. *However, due to the limitations of the annual conference year, where appointment changes are difficult to make early in the year, many of these changes cannot take effect until July 2009. In order to* implement this plan we will need to use up to \$77,890 of the Endowment to fund our remaining churches in the last half of 2009 into 2010.

**Recommendation:**

The Cabinet and the Committee on Hispano-Latino Ministries recommends that up to a total of **\$77,890 of the corpus of the Hispanic Endowment be used to balance the budget for Hispanic Ministries in 2009 and 2010.**