

**GUIDELINES AND PRINCIPLES IN RELATION TO USE OF THE
ETHNIC MINORITY CONGREGATIONAL FUND
WITHIN THE CALIFORNIA-NEVADA ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

*Purpose: The Ethnic Minority Congregational Fund (EMCF) was established for the purpose of developing and strengthening the ministries of ethnic congregations and ministries to ethnic persons. Guidelines mandate that funding is available up to **five** years in decreasing amounts. Application Forms are available through the Conference Office. Call: Dina Stenwick (916) 374-1525.*

*Due to limited resources and diversity of ethnic minority constituencies desiring funding, funding should be considered as seed money or support money rather than indefinite funding. **Money should not be used to provide supplementary salary to current pastoral staff.***

PROCESS

- 1. Submit completed application to your District Superintendent for comments/recommendations, who sends it to the Conference Office. All applications, with appropriate signatures and documents should be sent to The Board of Missions - EMCC, c/o California-Nevada Annual Conference, P.O. Box 980250, West Sacramento, CA 95798-0250.*
- 2. Write a 1-2 page description of the project.*
- 3. Include detailed budgets of the project and the sponsoring organization/church.*
- 4. Include a self-evaluation of the project, if it has been funded previously by EMCF.*
- 5. Deadline: Call Dina Stenwick at Conference Office, (916) 374-1525.*
- 6. Ten days after a funding meeting of the Ethnic Minority Congregations Committee (EMCC), applicants will be notified of the outcome of their applications. But, the recommendations of EMCC shall be subject to the final decision of the Board of Missions.*

GUIDELINES

- 1. That the project comply with the stated goal of the United Methodist Church Missional Priority of Developing and Strengthening an Ethnic Minority Local Church.*
- 2. That the project seeks to implement the stated of EMCF in the areas of:*
 - a. Leadership development and training.*
 - b. Development of new congregations.*
 - c. Ministries in transitional communities.*
 - d. Projects by existing churches to strengthen and expand their ministries.*
- 3. That the project has at least fifty percent (50%) ethnic minority leadership involved in planning, administration, and implementation. It must state the number of local church members participating in the project/program.*
- 4. To insure a fair and accurate evaluation for your project, please be sure that the following elements are clearly stated:*
 - a. Measurable objectives.*
 - b. Definite plan of evaluation.*
 - c. Required budgets, including expenses and all anticipated funding sources.*
 - d. Method/work plan for implementation of goals.*
 - e. Plan for future self-support*
 - f. Relationship to the purpose and stated goals of the EMCF and the Ethnic Minority Local Church Priority of the United Methodist Church.*

5. *Bi-lingual and language ministry opportunities are encouraged.*
6. *A representative from EMCC will assist local churches, who request assistance, in understanding the process of the application preparation.*
7. *Endorsement by the District Superintendent is required before the application will be considered for funding.*
8. *Before any project can be funded, the existing project or project planning committee must be visited by a member or assigned representative of the EMCC, if deemed necessary.*
9. *If deemed necessary by the EMCC, a member of the project or project committee must be available for a consultation with the EMCC.*
10. *Only one grant per year shall be received by any one project.*
11. *No single grant shall receive more than \$10,000 in one year. Two or more applications with a combination of up to a total of \$10,000 may be considered.*
12. *Grants will be awarded on a one-year basis. You must reapply for funding each year. A self-evaluation of the project must be submitted when reapplied. The same project may be funded in decreasing amount up to five years. Please use the EMCC self-evaluation of project form.*
13. *In order not to cause any delay, an application form must be completely furnished.*
14. *The EMCC shall annually review and evaluate approved projects/programs.*

PRINCIPLES USED IN DECISION MAKING

1. *The EMCC will seek to fund specific programs rather than provide supplemental income for the operating budget of organizations or churches.*
2. *Sponsoring organizations/churches must show monetary and in-kind support to a program/project in a manner commensurate with their financial abilities.*
3. *The needs, concerns, and development of the various ethnic groups while similar at many points are also quite diverse and often unique to each group; therefore, the EMCC will evaluate each request individually.*
4. *The EMCC shall exert great care and sensitivity to see that all ethnic groups share fairly in the use of the funds. There shall be no predetermined quota for any ethnic group.*
5. *Funding a project in a given year does not automatically imply continued funding. The Board of Missions (BOM) will approve projects for funding and report approved projects to the CCOM (Conference Council on Ministries).*
6. *Projects will be evaluated and recommended to the BOM by EMCC. The BOM will report all projects to the CCOM. A final report will be made to the Annual Conference Session each year.*
7. *Funding applications which include endorsement from the Local Church will ask the Local Church regarding its participation in connectional apportionment giving.*
8. *Funding application from community centers and programs must demonstrate that the project is developing and training missionally committed leaders for the local churches.*

NATIVE AMERICAN MINISTRIES SUNDAY OFFERING

Purpose: To develop and strengthen Native American ministry. Fifty percent of the offering is to remain in the conference; the other 50% is sent to the General Church for scholarships. Grants vary and must relate to the Native American ministry.

Process: Contact your District Superintendent or call Dina Stenwick (916) 374-1525.

Deadline: Call Dina Stenwick at Conference Office, (916) 374-1525.

The process, guidelines and principles used by the Ethnic Minority Congregations Committee (EMCC) in decision making are the same as that of EMCF. The funding amounts depend upon the availability of the financial resources from the offering, and normally no single grant will receive more than \$5,000 in one year.