

Missions Operational Grants

Introduction

Franconia Mennonite Conference offers Missions Operational Grants to conference congregations, Conference Related Ministries (CRM), and Partners In Mission (PIM) who are building on the Mennonite tradition of faith and want to try new initiatives to find new and creative ways to engage others, seeking ways to reach out to their communities or to people around the globe.

Criteria

We're looking for ideas for ministry that are centered in the Conference's core vision and therefore:

- are centered in Christ;
- help form identity from a biblical and Anabaptist perspective;
- empower and encourage leaders of all ages;
- foster healthy relationships; or
- are missional, intercultural or formational.

The ministry must fit at least one of the following categories:

- Connects leaders and churches around the Great Commission (Matthew 28:16-20)
- Helps to develop leaders, especially young adults.
- Employs wise stewardship by not duplicating other ministries or creating dependency.
- Commits to mutual accountability in intercultural relationships.
- Advocates evangelism, reconciliation and justice.
- Serves to multiply disciples, leaders and ministries.
- Builds mutual capacity among mission partners.
- Has an asset/gift-based bias—builds on the capacity of all participants.
- Includes regular cultural relevance checks and adjusts accordingly.

Those requesting grants are strongly encouraged to have a member of the Franconia Mennonite Conference Core Staff Team involved in helping to shape the request to ensure alignment with Franconia Mennonite Conference Vision, Mission, Values and Strategic Priorities as well as helping to fulfill the vision and mission of the requesting group/ministry.

Stories from recent recipients of Missions Operational Grants are regularly featured in *Intersections* and include examples like: [Nations Worship Center's](#) effort to begin a congregation in Suburban Washington, DC and [Boyertown Mennonite Church's](#) partnership with congregations in Vina del Mar, Chile. For more examples of recent grants, click here.

How to Apply

To apply for a grant, contact the Mennonite Conference Center @ 215-723-5513 or click here for an application.

How to Contribution to the grant fund

Missions Operational Grants are one of several grants that come from the conference's Ministry Resource Fund (MRF). If you are interested in supporting the Ministry Resource

Fund, you may do so in two ways.

1. Add Franconia Conference to your will; all estate gifts over \$1,000 go into the Ministry Resource Fund.
2. Make a contribution to the conference, designated for the Ministry Resource Fund.

If you designate your gift for "missions," it will be used for global initiative grants, within the above criteria. If your gift has no designation or marked as "undesignated," it will be used for any ministry idea meeting the above criteria.

Only 20% of the fund will be distributed each year, which means that the larger the fund, the more grants available. It also means that a gift to the fund will be used for a long time.

If you have questions or would like more information, contact Noel Santiago (nsantiago@franconiaconference.org), or Conrad Martin (ccmartin@franconiaconference.org) at 215-723-5513.