

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCHES

June 2022

NACCC FISCAL YEAR 2021-22 BUDGET NARRATIVE

SHARED MINISTRIES FUND v2.0

Bottom Line

The proposed budget passed by the NACCC's Board of Directors passed in March for FY 2022-23 produces a break-even budget for the Shared Ministries Fund, (SMF). This is the first break even budget in many years. This is accomplished with increased financial support by the Congregational Foundation (CF). For the first time, the CF has agreed to reimburse the SMF for identified expenses, including staff compensation, directly related to Ministry Councils for providing services for churches, individuals connected to member churches, and mission partners. Of these expenses, identified to be \$186,679 in FY 2022-23, the CF will reimburse the SMF \$145,930 from endowments dedicated to enhancing these services. With this additional revenue sources, the SMF is able to further help member churches specifically, by the addition of a Program Manager slated to be hired in early 2023. This new position will allow the NACCC and its Ministry Councils to create new programs and workshops based on the feedback from member churches. Taking advantage of these new resources, Ministry Councils have created bold program initiatives that will be detailed in their individual budget proposals

Revenue

We continue to be grateful to our member churches and individual supporters who continue to support the Shared Ministries Fund (SMF) despite the continuing challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. While contributions from member churches decreased by \$9,000, during FY 2021-22, we are optimistic that income in the coming year will increase to the levels that it has been the past few years. We are poised to redouble our efforts to re-connect with member churches as the pandemic continues to ease a bit. Dr. Cleere has made a personal commitment to visit 300 NACCC churches in the next three years, beginning with 2021-22 fiscal year. In FY 2021-22, the CF committed to pay \$81,000 as a first step to reimburse the NACCC for administrative expenses associated with fundraising and operational expenses of the CF. For FY 2022-23, they have agreed to increase the reimbursement to \$90,000. We also thank individual donors, who for the last through the last two years, have given over \$90,000 annually to support the SMF.

Expenses

As previously mentioned, compensation expenses include three months of funding for the new Program Manager position. \$23,400 has been included in the budget to fund the expected search and possible moving fees for this new position and search fees for the new CFO. It is anticipated that the new CFO will begin their employment shortly after the conclusion of the Annual Meeting. Travel & meeting budgets have been restored to their pre-pandemic levels.

The Executive Director's SMF Travel & Meeting budget has been increased to \$15,000, \$5,000 over its traditional levels in order to accommodate the Director's plan to visit 300 churches over the next three fiscal years. Costs have also been increased for staff training and continuing education.

Efforts to support the Congregationalist continue to be strong. These efforts allow for the magazine to maintain its deserved reputation for quality while keeping the subsidy provided to the SMF to a minimum.

The in person Annual Meeting means that \$50,000 of staff compensation will be funded by proceeds generated from the Annual Meeting. Keep in mind that \$50,000 represents about 60% of the compensation resources dedicated to the meeting each year. This "savings" shows up in the compensation budget which is \$43,000 less than last year despite adding the new Program Manager position and providing staff increases of 4%.

Thanks to everyone, particularly the Board of Governors of the Congregational Foundation for making this possible.

MINISTRY COUNCILS

Ministry Councils answered the challenge of doing more for active member churches in the new fiscal year. New programs or expansion of current programs include:

- MOMC, new initiatives aimed at better connecting with our mission partners. This includes:
 - o Mores traveling to visit missions by the MOMC Council & staff.
 - o Support of churches in their efforts to travel and connect with mission partners.
 - o Development of an NACCC led mission trip for members of NACCC churches.
- VMC:
 - o Year two of the successful Lay Ministers' Training program. The plan is to have two grade levels in active training with the goal of 20 students.
 - o Re-evaluation of the Ministers Convocation Program to improve the service provided to NACCC ministers by the three convocation sites.
 - o Partnering with the Interim Ministers Network to enhance our abilities to make specialized ministers available for churches in pastoral transition.
 - o Creation of the New Church Welcome Scholarships to provide \$500 for up to 10 new churches annually to attend the Annual Meeting to enhance the opportunity of new churches to experience fellowship with fellow NACCC member churches.

- GMC:
 - o Create more flexibility to best address new and existing church needs by combining funds for new church plants and revitalization of existing churches into one account.
 - o GMC provided \$100,000 worth to churches to address facility and technology issues caused by the pandemic. While those grants were a one-time disbursement, the GMC has budgeted for an increase in the number of Hurting Churches Grant applications for FY 2022-23.

Leadership Center

With the anticipated hiring of a full time Program Manager at for the fourth quarter of FY 2022-23, the focus of the Center for this year will be to:

- Support the Ministry Councils in helping them to achieve their ambitious agenda.
- Expand and refine its offerings of webinars on topics of interest and concern for NACCC member churches.
- Working with the Lombard Mennonite Peace Institute, build a network within the NACCC of trained leaders to consult with member churches during periods of conflict.

The Board of Directors of the NACCC believes this budget will enhance the services the NA provides to member churches while maintaining fiscal responsibility. We respectfully ask the delegates of the Annual Meeting to approve this budget for the 2022-23 fiscal year.