

# Redeemer Local Mission Fund Guidelines

## Purpose of the Local Mission Fund

The Local Mission Fund exists to serve the people of our city by supporting local ministry partners and by meeting small financial needs in our community. Its receipts consist primarily of contributions from members of the church or funds received for use of the facilities, and its expenses consist of funds disbursed for its intended purposes at the direction of the Deacon of Benevolence, Benevolence Team, and/or Personnel and Finance Team.

## Local Mission Fund Oversight

Ideally, the Local Mission Fund will be overseen and managed by the Deacon of Benevolence and those and enlisted to serve alongside the deacon in coordination with the Personnel and Finance Team. In the absence of a Deacon of Benevolence, members of the Personnel and Finance Team may be selected to oversee the fund.

## General Guidelines

The fund is designated for three different types of local mission ministry: (1)Needs among our immediate neighbors; (2)partnerships with local ministries, and (3)church or missional community events and functions

### (a) Needs among neighbors:

Gifts not exceeding \$75 may be granted at the discretion of those assigned oversight from the Benevolence Team, Personnel and Finance Team, or Pastoral Body. Gifts will be reported through an online form (insert web link) that will be available to the Benevolence Team and Personnel and Finance Team. Any gift larger than \$75 must be approved by either the Personnel and Finance Team or Pastoral Body. Generally, no gift should exceed \$150. Under no circumstance is a disbursement from the Local Mission Fund to be considered a loan. No disbursement may be repaid, either in part or in full, in money or in labor.

### Examples of meeting needs among neighbors:

- A family in our neighborhood has a newborn baby and would be well served by a pack of diapers and wipes.
- A member's neighbor needs a safe place to escape domestic violence and the church can provide a hotel room, meals, or childcare.
- A neighbor asks for financial assistance on the local facebook page.
- The elementary school contacts us and asks if we can provide groceries for a family in need.
- A member's neighbor mentions to a member that they are short of their utility bill payment.

(b) Local ministry partners:

Gifts not exceeding \$250 may be granted at the discretion of those assigned oversight from the Benevolence Team, Personnel and Finance Team, or Pastoral Body. Gifts will be reported through an online form (insert web link) that will be available to the Benevolence Team and Personnel and Finance Team. Any gift larger than \$250 must be approved by either the Personnel and Finance Team or Pastoral Body. Generally, no gift should exceed \$500. In the event that a ministry asks for a regular on-going donation, no more than one-third of the monthly budget for the local mission fund can be authorized for ongoing donations to one ministry. At least two-thirds should remain flexible for meeting neighbor needs and outreach events.

Examples of funding for local ministry partners:

- Providing funding for a meal or event for an international student ministry in the city.
- Making a one time purchase for needed supplies or construction for a local ministry.
- Donating to a fundraiser for a local, like-minded ministry.

(c) Missional Community/church outreach events:

Gifts of up to \$250 may be designated for Redeemer outreach events at the discretion of those assigned oversight from the Benevolence Team, Personnel and Finance Team, or Pastoral Body. Gifts will be reported through an online form (insert web link) that will be available to the Benevolence Team and Personnel and Finance Team. Any gift larger than \$250 must be approved by either the Personnel and Finance Team or Pastoral Body. Generally, no gift should exceed \$500.

Examples of MC/church outreach events:

- Providing funding for an MC to host an Easter Egg Hunt, Backyard Bible Club, a large-scale neighborhood cookout.
- Providing funding for an event with a local school - food for teachers, school supplies, etc.

Disbursement of the Funds

All disbursements from the Local Mission Fund shall be made directly to the party or entity to whom payment is due (No funds will be given directly to the Church member or household requesting the assistance).

Limits on the Funds

The Local Mission Giving Fund is not intended for members of Redeemer, immediate or distant relatives of members of Redeemer, or out of town contacts.

The funds are intended to serve local residents and in some cases those seeking transportation back to their family or home in another city.

#### Reporting

After appropriate approval for a disbursement, a member of the oversight team will submit a Local Mission Giving Disbursement Form online at (insert web address). This form will be accessible to team members, the pastoral body, and the Personnel and Finance Team.