

Guidelines for MD Fund Dispersal

Definition: Missions Development Fund is a resource for NEW mission and evangelistic initiatives within local communities in Classis Niagara.

Purpose: provide start-up funds for NEW, ongoing, relational initiatives, designed to serve local communities through the sharing of the Word of God or meeting community needs for the expressed purpose of showing the love of Jesus in practical and encouraging ways.

Criteria: below is a list of requirements that must be met in order for the DMD team to consider the proposal and recommend to CMC to make resources available to fund the project.

1. The initial proposal must be made by:
 - a. A church or ministry of Classis Niagara
 - b. Individuals or groups who have membership in a member church of Classis Niagara. (An endorsement from the Council of the member church maybe required to qualify.)
2. The initial proposal must be a new, ongoing, relational initiative to be carried out in a community within Classis Niagara.
3. The initial proposal must contain the following information:
 - a. A clear missional purpose that meets a need within the community; for example: a Missional Community that incarnates the gospel in a neighbourhood or people group, a Bible study with unchurched neighbours, a ministry at Brock or Niagara College, a project that addresses physical needs, or any proposal that demonstrates the love of Jesus.
 - b. A clearly defined plan outlining the vision, strategies, expected outcomes and funding plan (which reflects annual decreases in funding from the Missions Development Fund) of the proposal.
 - c. Adequate demonstration of need within the community.
4. Provide an annual report, which needs to include progress towards expected outcomes, to:
 - a. Classis DMD team.
 - b. Sponsoring member Church if applicable
 - c. Other sources of support

Funding Structure:

1. Funding from the Classis Missions Development Fund is available up to 50% of the proposed cost of the project.
2. Start-up funding from the Missions Development Fund will be provided in the following increments:
 - a. \$1,000 for small projects with an annual decrease of \$250 for a maximum of 4 years.
 - b. \$2,000 for medium projects with an annual decrease of \$400 for a maximum of 5 years.

Grants made through the Missions Development Fund are not automatic and are subjected to an annual review to be conducted by the DMD team, sponsoring member Church and any other source of support.