**MATTHEW BEMENT (MSG) FOUNDATION**

AN INVITATION TO PROPOSE PROJECTS FOR FUNDING

BY THE MATTHEW BEMENT FOUNDATION

The Matthew Bement Foundation is a charitable fund established by Matthew Bement, a Foreign Service Specialist who served in many posts throughout the World. The Foundation is committed to expanding the opportunities for professional fulfillment and community service of active Marine Security Guards and their families.

The principal activity of the Foundation is to support projects that are initiated and carried out, on an entirely unofficial, voluntary basis, by Marine Security Guard personnel or members of their families, wherever located. The Foundation may also consider projects of the same nature proposed by other U.S. Government employees or members of their families, regardless of nationality, who are located at American diplomatic posts abroad. Only the foregoing persons are eligible applicants.

In 2015 the Foundation was established to provide grants to support the involvement of Marine Security Guard personnel in the projects described in the Foundation grant criteria on the Foundation
website: **www.matthewbementfoundation.com .**

The following paragraphs set forth a sampling of projects supported by the Foundation in recent years

**Education Projects**: School supplies for refugee and other conflict-afflicted children and for orphanages; English language learning materials for high school students; day-care facilities for underprivileged women learning marketable skills; specialized education equipment for the disabled; kitchen and other equipment for occupational training programs..

**Additional Projects for Young People**: Playground and sports training equipment, educational toys, furnishings, household appliances, toilet and shower facilities for special-needs schools and orphanages; clean-ups to improve sanitation and create play spaces; school fees and food for abandoned children; materials for a re-entry program for returning Foreign Service teens.

**Health and Safety-related Projects**: Dental care for impoverished children; staff training for crisis shelters; health care equipment and improved sanitation for maternity clinics and orphanages; a visual impairment survey among HIV-positive children; rebuilding homes of earthquake victims; photo documentation of murdered women set on fire by husbands or in- laws.

**Revenue-producing Projects**: Machines and materials for income-generating programs for sick and disadvantaged children and adults, including abused women, migrant workers, refugees, Roma and victims of sex-trafficking; a cooperative for deaf carpenters.

The Foundation will invite the submission of proposals for 2018 Grants in June 2017.

Certain restrictions apply:

(a) Funds from the Foundation cannot be used to pay salaries or other compensation to U.S. Government employees or their family members.

(b) The Foundation does not support projects that have reasonable prospects of obtaining full funding from other sources.

 (c) The Foundation will provide support for a project operated by a charitable or educational organization only where the individual applicant(s) plan an active part in initiating and carrying out the project, apart from fundraising.

(d) The Foundation will support only projects in which each applicant's role is clearly separate from the applicant's official responsibilities..

A proposal should include a description of the project, its aims and the role to be played by the applicant(s); a preliminary plan for disseminating the results of the project; a budget; other available funding, if any; and a brief biography of the

applicant(s). Proposals should be no longer than five double-spaced pages (exclusive of budget and biographical material). Please follow the application format available at **www.matthewbementfoundation.com** or by communicating directly with the Foundation (see below).

Proposals for projects to be funded during calendar year 2018 must be received by the Foundation no later than June 30, 2017. **Proposals can be submitted by mail, by fax or (preferably) by e-mail to:**

**Matthew Bement (MSG) Foundation**

**681 Clark Ave.**

**Webster Groves Mo. 63119**

**+49-0170-788-7083**

**E-mail: Send to** **matthew\_bement@yahoo.com** **Further information about the Foundation can be found at www.matthewbementfoundation.com**