

YES Fund Policy (Updated)

(Youth Empowerment Support Fund)

Purpose

The purpose of the YES Fund is to encourage participation of youth and children in approved activities by sharing the cost of their registration fees and travel expenses.

Supported Activities

Activities include youth camps, retreats, reunions, and other Mission Center approved activities with registration fees or substantial travel costs.

As finances permit, the YES fund can be used to share the cost of registration and travel to high impact World Church events such as Spectacular, International Youth Forum and Peace Colloquy.

The amount of financial assistance for travel and/or registration will be determined by the Mission Center President and Financial Officer. The activity must be sponsored or endorsed by the Inland West Mission Center.

Eligibility

All youth and children who demonstrate a need may be eligible. It is preferable that those applying are actively involved in a Community of Christ congregation. If the applicant wishing to attend an event is not a member or participant in a congregation they must include a letter of recommendation from an Inland West Mission Center or congregational youth leader, pastor or staff member.

Availability

The applicant should exhaust all other avenues of financial assistance before applying for YES Fund aid. Congregations should encourage and promote participation in eligible events by sharing in the financial aid. Youth needing financial assistance should work with their pastor or youth leader to raise finances through various fund raising methods. The YES Fund should not be considered the primary means of financial assistance.

Applications will be reviewed and approved based on need. Only under unusual circumstances will YES funds be used to cover 100% of the travel and/or registration costs. It is important that those participating in approved events pay at least part of the cost so that:

1. They have a personal financial investment that results in a sense of "ownership" in the event.
2. They gain a better understanding of financial responsibility and principles of requesting financial assistance.

Application for funds

Those requesting financial assistance from the YES Fund must complete the approved application form. It must be signed by the applicant, the pastor and the activity director. Completed applications must be received by the Mission Center Financial Officer at least one month before the event for which aid is requested.