

**Church of the Brethren**  
Global Food Initiative  
September 24, 2020  
Appropriation 17-20

**Minutes**

**Burundi – Farmer Training**

Jeff Boshart, fund manager, and the Grant Review Panel recommended an additional allocation of \$7,500 from the Global Food Initiative for farmer training in Burundi.

This will be the sixth year of what THARS and the GFI were hoping would be a 5-year project. Results have been quite positive, leading the GFI review panel to recommend the project for a 1-year extension, with the expectation of extending the training activities to two new communities.

As of August 2020, THARS reports that 552 farmers with an average of seven people in each household, at least 3,864 people, are benefitting from the project, with families able to not only meet their food needs, but to sell extra to help with other expenses. Reports, as well as first-hand testimonies, show farmers' yields have improved dramatically using techniques learned from THARS agronomists - up to 10 times the yields resulting from traditional methods.

Funds will be used for participants' accommodations and meals, materials and other expenses related to training sessions, and personnel and administrative costs.

Previous grants to this project:

April 2015 – \$16,000

July 2016 – \$10,640

Sept. 2017 – \$9,872

Sept. 2018 – \$8,944

Sept. 2019 - \$7,919

**APPROVAL** for this allocation was given by Roy Winter, executive director of Service Ministries; Ed Woolf, assistant treasurer; David Steele, general secretary; and Mission and Ministry Board members Marty Barlow, Lauren Seganos Cohen, Thomas Dowdy, Carl Fike, Lois Grove, Heather Gentry Hartwell, Dava Hensley, John Hoffman, Paul Liepelt, Diane Mason, Joel Peña, Roger Schrock, Paul Schrock, Colin Scott, Christina Singh, Patrick Starkey, and Carol Yeazell.

**Nancy Miner, recorder**

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