

Brethren Faith In Action Fund Committee Guideline Change Request

The Brethren Faith In Action Fund Committee met on September 21, 2023.

- The committee requests that in the case of project requests under \$1,000 that the full project be funded without matching funds from the congregation or camp.
- In 2023, the amount of funds available totaled \$67,128.00. Requests for funds exceeded the amount allotted. Because of fluctuations in the market, there was an excess in funding of approximately \$56,000 in 2021 and \$58,000 in 2022. Is there a way to either set aside money for the next year in cases of excess funds or to find a method to stabilize the amount available each year?
- The committee has discussed the need for grant requests that fall somewhere between what BFIA and Disaster Ministries funds. These needs come from congregations that do not own their buildings and small congregations that need building repairs in order to carry out their ministries. There is a need to adapt to the changing reality of smaller congregations. An example is that a small congregation in Florida requested BFIA funds to replace the air conditioner in their rented building. The guidelines state that grant money cannot be used for repairs but the reality is that the building became unusable due to the heat and humidity in Florida.

Submitted by Joanna Willoughby, Stan Dueck, Russ Matteson