

New York Yearly Meeting Restructuring of the Committee for the Fund for Sufferings

Approved at the September 13th, 2018 meeting of Ministry Coordinating Committee.

Reorganization of the management of the Fund for Sufferings as handled by the Yearly Meeting: We propose the following reorganization, which starts with laying down the Committee on Sufferings:

1. We will have a point person for the Fund for Sufferings in lieu of a committee. Nominating Committee will find a point person. The point person will work under the aegis of Ministry CC.
2. The point person will be responsible for getting out the word about the fund, receiving grant applications, and forwarding grant requests to the Ministry CC Clerk with a recommendation on whether or not to provide the funding. The Ministry CC clerk will consider the recommendation of the Fund for Sufferings point person for each grant request received and, if favorable, indicate approval.
3. The point person will work with the NYYM Treasurer to submit vouchers for approved grants.

Broadened Possible Uses of the Fund: We seek YM approval to broaden the possibilities for making grants from this fund so that the income is used more readily. We recommend reducing the five Functions and Activities listed in the current [Handbook page for the Committee on Sufferings](#) to the following two (Appendix 2):

Functions & Activities

1. To administer the Fund for Sufferings to provide aid and assistance to those who are suffering [financial] hardship because of fidelity to Friends' testimonies.
2. To consider applications for assistance from a Yearly Meeting member wherever that person resides and from any who are faithful participants in worship and action in local meetings. Normally, an application will be forwarded by a local meeting with the anticipation that the Fund will supplement the meeting's financial resources in the matter. In lieu of this, a Yearly Meeting committee may endorse and forward the application.

Appendix 1: Minute 74 of the 1971 Yearly Meeting sessions

The Minute on Sufferings offered for consideration at the Representative Meeting in May was offered for discussion and decision. It was agreed that:

“Friends have a responsibility to support those who endure sufferings through faithfulness to Friends’ Testimony. This responsibility rests first on Monthly Meetings for their members who stand in need. It rests also on the Yearly Meeting for those persons who endure sufferings while implementing Yearly Meeting Concerns. To enable the Yearly Meeting to meet its responsibility, the Peace and Social Action Program is authorized to establish and administer a Fund for Sufferings and to solicit contributions thereto.”