

YOUTH INITIATIVES FUND POLICY

Constitution and Operating Procedures

Origin and Purpose

The Youth Initiative Fund (The Fund) was created in December, 2001, by the Christian Development Committee (CDC). It is a vehicle to receive and hold monies made available through grants, and donations, tied to specific youth development projects. These are over and above ongoing CDC activities financed under the committee's budget allocation within the Grace Operating Account.

Fund Resources & Activities

There are two main sources of funds. One is the Vision Fund (VF) established at the national level of the United Church. The VF receives applications from local churches for funding of projects within the VF mandate. The Fund applies to VF for financial support of projects it considers to be eligible under VF rules. A second source is locally received gifts from parishioners and others. Together, these support special CDC ventures.

Typical in Grace among special initiatives are the following: "SWELL", a worship service for youth in London Conference; training sessions for young people at Princeton University; internship of youth in service to the local church, Presbytery or Conference; purchase of equipment to enhance worship or service.

Investment/Accountability

In Grace's books of account, The Fund is one of several church funds. It is separated from operating funds to recognize its specific mandate within CDC activities. The assets of The Fund are ensured by the overall positive balance in the Grace Church operating account.

The CDC and its Chair is accountable to Council for The Fund. It delegates administrative responsibility to the CD minister. The Fund's financial operations are conducted through the Church Treasurer (receipt and disbursement of monies) and the Church Accountant (the tracking of income, outgo and Fund balances).

The Church Accountant will publish The Fund's financial activities on a quarterly basis and the Grace Annual Report.

Authority and Approvals

Spending from The Fund begins with authorization by the CD minister and/or the CDC Chairperson. This authorization must be arms-length. Where there is a conflict of interest between the authorization and the recipient (be it individual or group) a third party signature shall be required.