

MISSION IMPACT FUND

Investing in Mission on the Frontline

GUIDELINES 2025



SEVENTH-DAY
ADVENTIST® CHURCH

I. INTRODUCTION

The Seventh-day Adventist Church has as its strategy reaching the world under a thematic focus of, **I Will Go!** This focus envisions every level of the Church, every institution, and every member engaged in some way to fulfill the commission to reach the unreached for Christ! Aligning financial resources to support this strategy is a commitment church leaders make as part of their organizational stewardship. The local church stands on the frontline of reaching the world in the various communities where they are located. Supporting the local church in applying, **I Will Go** is an investment in a mission where the most significant impact can be realized.

II. PURPOSE

The purpose of the **Mission Impact Fund (MIF)** is to allocate financial resources to support I Will Go initiatives with a particular preference to those administered by local churches. By providing support to local churches whose project submissions are approved, it expresses the intent of the General Conference to:

- Inspire existing local churches to engage with and meet the needs of their communities in new and innovative ways
- Invest in the frontline mission of local churches
- Impact the world for Christ one community at a time

III. METRICS

Following Jesus' example (see Matthew 9:35-36), Ellen White comments, "Christ's method alone will give true success in reaching the people. The Savior mingled with men as one who desired their good. He showed His sympathy for them, ministered to their needs, and won their confidence. Then He bade them, 'Follow Me.'" (*Ministry of Healing*, p. 143).

Local churches, therefore, should

- offer their love without any ulterior motive
- seek to connect their event with a spiritual activity
- ensure that their project has an intentional plan to lead the community from friendship to followership.

IV. SOURCE OF FUNDS

The funding source for the **Mission Impact Fund** will primarily come from unrestricted maturities of planned gifts from church members. In addition, contributions may come

from designated donations to support this investment in the frontline mission. As funds are received from unrestricted maturities or donations designated, they will be applied to the **Mission Impact Fund** as follows:

- 80% of Unrestricted estate distributions
- 100% of Designated current donations to MIF

V. ACCOUNTING AND USE

General Conference Treasury has established the **Mission Impact Fund** as a separate fund. Reports will show the total amount available to invest in **I Will GO** projects and the budgeted amount to spend for the upcoming year. The budgeting guideline is to spend up to 20% of any unrestricted estate distributions or specific donations received in the subsequent year and each year after that. This balances not spending all resources in one year while not holding the money unspent indefinitely.

The General Conference Strategic Planning and Budgeting Committee will approve the budgeted amount available for distribution each year, and the General Conference Treasury will advise Divisions on how much is available.

VI. PARTNERSHIP AND PROMOTION

General Conference Treasury will partner with the Planned Giving & Trust Services Department (PGTS) to administer the **Mission Impact Fund** to ensure the financial resources are appropriately applied and the results actively promoted.

PGTS will promote the Mission Impact through Division PGTS and Treasury departments worldwide.

VII. DIVISION GUIDANCE

Divisions are responsible for promoting the Mission Impact Fund within the context of their territory and in harmony with their strategic plan.

One approach to promoting this fund may be to generate ideas at the Division for projects at the local level that are in harmony with the Division's strategic plan. Another approach may be allowing innovative ideas to originate at a local church and require approval and support for the project at the Conference and Union before being considered at the Division.

Projects may be implemented at multiple churches in the same community and still be considered one project.

The Division is responsible for ensuring all funding is used as stated in the project application and submitting reports for all projects approved within its territory. If final or interim reports for approved projects are not submitted to the GC PGTS Department, then funding for future projects within that Division will be put on hold.

VIII. APPLICATION

A Mission Impact Fund Project Proposal must be submitted through the PGTS or Treasury Department of the related Conference or Union and then to the Division Office to apply for funding. The application portal will open in January of each year. A unique project application link will be issued to each Division for each year. Contact the Division PGTS directly to see if your project would qualify. Contact information for the Division PGTS Director may be found at the General Conference PGTS Department webpage willplan.org/missionimpactfund.

All communication regarding the project proposal or application must be directed to the applying organization's next higher organization and Division Planned Giving & Trust Services department. Local organizations are not to communicate directly with the General Conference.

The project application includes the following:

- The brief profile of the local organization(s) implementing the project
- The purpose and intended impact of the project
- The brief plan to accomplish the project
- **An intentional plan to lead the community from friendship to discipleship**
- The budget for the project, which also indicates financial resources committed by the local organization(s) and the availability of additional resources from other sources
- Description of measures for determining the project's success
- The Key Performance Indicators (KPI) of the Strategic Plan the project is addressing and how it is doing so
- Description of how the Division will ensure the funding is used as intended

IX. DIVISION REVIEW

The Division PGTS department is tasked with completing the following about the Mission Impact Fund Project Proposal:

1. Ensure the accuracy of the information contained within the project proposal
2. Submit the proposal for review to the Division approval process
 - a. If the proposal meets with the organization's approval, consideration should be given to providing additional financial support to the project

3. Each Division may select up to fifteen (15) projects to complete the full MIF project application to be submitted to the General Conference for consideration.

X. SUBMISSION TO THE GENERAL CONFERENCE

Once the Division gives support for up to 15 project applications, the application will be submitted to the General Conference PGTS Department for review and approval by the Mission Impact Fund Advisory Committee.

Each year, each Division may submit up to 15 project applications to the GC PGTS Department by **May 1**. Applications will be reviewed, and funding decisions will be announced at the Annual Council of the same year.

XI. MISSION IMPACT FUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Mission Impact Fund Advisory Committee will review all project applications submitted by the application deadline of May 1 each year. The committee will have complete discretion in recommending funding a project application to the General Conference Strategic Budget and Planning Committee.

XII. FUNDING

Funding for project applications recommended by the Mission Impact Fund Advisory Committee and approved by The Strategic Planning and Budget Committee will be directed to the applying organization's Division office. The Division ensures the funds are distributed to the approved local organization. It is within the Division's discretion to release all the funds in one or more distributions to the organization. Funds will be sent to the Division before the end of the calendar year they are approved.

XIII. PROJECT REPORTS

All approved projects must submit a final report to the General Conference PGTS Department through the local organization's Division Office once the project has been completed or on January 31 of the year following funding. Unique project report links will be sent to the Primary Contact Person for each approved and funded project. Project reports are due January 31, 12 months after the year the project was approved for funding.