

MISSION IMPACT FUND

Frontline Mission Investing

LOCAL CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS APPLICATION GUIDELINES - 2027



I. INTRODUCTION

The Seventh-day Adventist Church has adopted the 'I Will Go!' strategy, which challenges every member, institution, and organizational level to actively engage in sharing the message of Christ with unreached populations. Church leaders are committed to strategically allocating financial resources to support this mission as part of their stewardship responsibilities. Local churches serve as the frontline in reaching their communities, making them vital to the success of this initiative. Supporting local churches in implementing the General Conference 'I Will Go!' Strategic Plan 2025-2030, Mission For All (see The General Conference *"I Will Go" Strategic Plan 2025-2030* (attached) ensures a greater and more lasting impact in fulfilling the Church's mission.

II. PURPOSE

The purpose of the **Mission Impact Fund (MIF)** is to allocate financial resources to support **I Will Go** initiatives administered by local churches. By providing support to local churches whose innovative 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 (see The General Conference *"I Will Go" Strategic Plan 2025-2030* (attached):

- seek to connect their program, project, or event with a spiritual activity.
- ensure that their program, project, or event 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.

V. PARTNERSHIP AND PROMOTION

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

The Planned Giving & Trust Services Department will promote the Mission Impact through Division Planned Giving & Trust Services and Treasury departments worldwide.

VI. DIVISION GUIDANCE

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

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 reports for approved projects are not submitted to the General Conference Planned Giving & Trust Services Department, then funding for future projects within that Division will be put on hold.

VII. APPLICATION

A Mission Impact Fund Project Application must be submitted through the Planned Giving & Trust Services or Treasury Department of your **conference** or **union** and then to the Division Office to apply for funding. The application will be made available through your Division Planned Giving & Trust Services Department or on the <https://www.willplan.org/services/missionimpactfund/> website. Contact your Division Planned Giving & Trust Services Director or Treasurer for additional information.

To maintain effective communication channels, local organizations are to coordinate through their next higher organization **not by** contacting the General Conference directly. This ensures streamlined support and guidance.

The project application includes the following:

- The organization profile, and
- The Project Information.

VIII. APPLICATION REVIEW PROCESS

The Division Planned Giving & Trust Services Department is tasked with completing the following about the Mission Impact Fund Project Application:

1. Ensure the accuracy of the information contained within the project application.
2. Each Division may select up to fifteen (15) project applications to be submitted to the General Conference Planned Giving & Trust Services Department by May 1 each year for consideration by the Mission Impact Fund Advisory Committee. Funding decisions will be finalized at the time of the Annual Council of the application year.

IX. FUNDING

Funding approval decisions will be directed to the applying organization's Division office. The Division Treasury Department 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.

X. PROJECT REPORTS

Reports for all approved projects must include stories of transformation and lives changed, along with a written press release or story accompanied by digital media. These reports are to be submitted to the General Conference Planned Giving & Trust Services Department through the Division office of the local organization either upon project completion or by January 31 of the year following funding.