

Pittsburgh Presbytery

Mission Ministry Team (MMT)

Criteria For Validation and Funding

I. ADVANCING THE FAITH

1. The agency must have as its over-all purpose a clear and constant witness to Jesus Christ as its reason for mission and our greatest need. This witness to Christ may be evidenced by:
 - the stated purpose of the mission unit,
 - a majority of Christians and people of faith serving as board members and staff,
 - and/or the mission program being church-based.
2. The agency's mission and activities must be consistent with the stated goals of Pittsburgh Presbytery.
3. The agency will be funded only if it has Presbyterian representation on its board of directors or other governing committee.
4. The agency must be appropriately inclusive of persons without regard to race, age, gender, ethnic origin, marital status or disabilities.

II. BEING EFFECTIVE

5. The MMT funds mission. MMT funds are to be used for funding mission agency work and new congregational initiatives, which are approved by the MMT upon recommendation of the MMT New Mission work group.
6. The agency must establish and pursue its goals by means of an acceptable and efficient planning process and a sound administrative structure.
7. Mission agencies must show responsible stewardship of all resources entrusted to them (e.g. people, funds, building plant, property and equipment).
8. The agency must demonstrate willingness and ability to meet documented needs within the boundaries of Pittsburgh Presbytery, and detail how it purposes to meet those needs.
9. The agency must show creativity and energy in:
 - identifying the needs of its' client group(s),
 - in meeting those needs through well run and efficient programs,
 - in ensuring that the agency is appropriately staffed and operated,
 - and in seeking funding sources for the agency and its programs.
10. The agency will submit annual reports of its progress to the MMT, understanding that if reports are not received on a timely basis, funding will cease. The agency must also be willing to participate in a biannual on-site evaluation of its work as long as it continues to seek Pittsburgh Presbytery's support.
11. The agency will report all sources of income, along with the current operating budget, proposed operating budget for the next year, the year end financial statement for the last year and a statement of audit for the last year.

III. SIGNIFICANT USE OF MMT FUNDING

12. The agency must show a significant use for the funding from Pittsburgh Presbytery. The significant use will be reviewed in the context of operating costs and efforts to reduce them, the fund raising alternatives, and the overall efficiency of the agency. This significant use may be shown by:
 - appropriate use as operating funds,
 - use as an enhancement of key programs,
 - use as a base for program funding,
 - use when there is legitimate difficulty in raising funding from alternative sources.
13. Priority will be given to enabling churches and mission agencies of Pittsburgh Presbytery to be more effective in performing their mission, where they have documented and validated local needs but lack financial resources.

The Mission Ministry Team validates agencies and funds mission activities. Not all validated mission activities are funded. Validation alone by MMT should be useful in alternative fund raising from churches and foundations.