



Canadian Reformed World Relief Fund

POLICY – Criteria for Individual Trip Support

Guidelines for Evaluating Requests for Financial Support

Policy

CRWRF endeavours to provide Christian charity through relief and development work, as a vehicle for our constituency to address the temporal needs of our neighbours who live outside of Canadian borders. We endeavour to provide practical aid accompanied by a faithful Christian witness. For this reason we may consider partial financial support to members within our constituency who are carrying out work that meets our criteria and falls within our mandate.

Guidelines

Individual:

- Candidate is an active member in the Canadian Reformed Church Federation
- Funding request accompanied by a letter of endorsement from his/her Consistory affirming his/her spiritual maturity, high standards of Christian lifestyle and demonstrated abilities in Christian service
- Candidate has volunteered to serve the poor in Canada, and has sought opportunities to work and relate with people of different cultural backgrounds
- Assignment term is minimally 1 year in duration

Work Assignment:

- Work assignment of candidate falls within CRWRF's program focus (Children, Community Development, Relief & Rehabilitation)
- Local Entity where candidate is assigned meets CRWRF's standards for Programs and Projects (Christian witness, and standards of accountability and stewardship)
- Candidate has skills needed for the task and/or will be trained for the task

Sending Agency:

- Has positively assessed the candidate's skills, preparedness and health (emotional/physical) to do assigned work in a cross-cultural environment
- Has provided orientation training, and ensured that candidate has proper visas, vaccinations, and certification of credentials (where necessary)
- Has worked with candidate to develop a service budget that provides for his/her travel to country, housing set-up, transportation, food, medical insurance, an emergency at any time, and language training
- Offers candidate administration support in Canada to process charitable donations given to his/her service budget
- Offers candidate in-country supervision, counsel and support
- Complies with highest standards of Christian Stewardship, and is a legally recognized charity

Post trip covenant: The individual, upon completing his/her cross-cultural work experience agrees to:

- Complete a written report to CRWRF about assignment
- Share work experiences and reflections through presentations with home church and CRWRF constituents
- Serve as a resource person for other members of the Canadian Reformed Church Federation who are considering short-term relief and development assignments
- Join and encourage others of the Canadian Reformed Church federation to engage in cross-cultural service to the poor in Canadian neighbourhoods

Typical steps of those seeking service opportunities outside of Canada:

- Prays for God's direction in use of talents to serve the poor
- Actively looks for service opportunities in local church and helps poor in his/her community
- Adopts a lifestyle that shows desire to promote justice for the poor and oppressed
- Becomes informed about service opportunities in Canada and abroad
- Talks to pastor and elders about desire to work outside of Canada on behalf of the poor
- Sends application to a selected agency that offers volunteers work opportunities
- Goes through evaluation process, testing, interview with sending agency
- Upon acceptance communicates with church members, family and friends about work, and begin to raise financial support
- Requests partial financial support from CRWRF (1-2 months needed to review your request)
- Receives orientation and initial training from sending agency in Canada
- Gets vaccinations, visas, and certifications needed
- When budget quota has been raised, leaves to new post of service
- Upon arrival starts in country orientation and language learning
- Takes on new task
- Reports to CRWRF on completed work
- Shares experiences and reflections with church / CRWRF constituents
- Joins and encourages others to engage in cross-cultural service to the poor in Canadian neighbourhoods