

Strawberry Creek Friends Meeting Guidelines for Financial Aid from the Quaker Events Support Fund

Approved by Oversight Committee on April 12, 2006

Revised by Care of Meeting Committee on January 2, 2011, May 6, 2013, and June 3, 2017

Approved by Care of Meeting with no revisions, July, 2023

PURPOSE: Strawberry Creek Meeting's Quaker Events Support Fund provides a modest amount of financial aid to help make it possible for SCMM members and regular attenders to participate in Quaker events outside those of Strawberry Creek Meeting (such as College Park Quarterly or Pacific Yearly Meetings). Friends are encouraged to apply for funds for events that help them develop their capacity for service or to enhance a spiritual leading, if the cost of such an event is a burden to themselves or their families. This fund is a line item in the Meeting's annual budget.

These guidelines are intended to help inform both potential applicants and the Care of the Meeting Committee (COMC) which decides on allocations from this fund. Specific guidelines are as follows:

A. Requests for financial aid from the Quaker Events Support Fund should be made in writing to the COMC as far in advance of the event as possible. Requests will be considered at the next regularly scheduled meeting – which can be as much as a month following a request.

B. A specific request will be considered by COMC within the context of overall demand on the Fund at the time of the request.

C. Support is for Quaker events, in the following order of priority:

1. College Park Quarterly or Pacific Yearly Meeting
2. Friends General Conference Annual Gathering, and board or committee meetings of Quaker organizations (especially those receiving a financial contribution from the Meeting)
3. Other Quaker events

D. Support is for SCMM members & regular attenders.

E. Support is not to exceed half the cost of the event, including accommodations, regular registration, & travel. Scholarships from other sources may be considered as part of the individual's contribution toward the event. Recipients who are serving the work of a Quaker organization are encouraged to first request funds from that organization. A request for support from the SCMM Quaker Events Support Fund is assumed to indicate a true lack of funds.

F. Typically, recipients will not receive support for more than one event per year.

G. Support is based on the least expensive travel arrangements and accommodations that can meet the applicant's physical needs and limitations.

H. Recipients are encouraged to weigh our use of money, the earth's resources & our time in making choices about our travel.