

Benevolence Process Guidelines

Franklin Christian Church is a church that loves to give and help, but as everyone does, the church has basic responsibilities to continue to operate and the Bible says, we must “use no man”, so we strive to pay our bills in a timely fashion, which at times can stretch the budget thin. We also feel out of the storehouse of God’s church, there is the need to help in cases of true need and destitution, so we strive to have money allocated to the Benevolence Fund is to provide financial aid to an individual who is in need on an urgent basis. The Benevolence Fund may not be applicable for cases which need long term financial support or in cases of lack of effort on the part of the recipient to take control of their lives both spiritually in their walk with God or naturally in their responsible financial budgeting and oversight of their business and life matters. The church truly desires to help those that are responsible and trying their very best and are giving 100% effort to God and managing the affairs of their lives properly yet find they have a shortfall. The church Benevolence Fund directors may decide to adjust or to disapprove an applicant’s request and may consider providing assistance other than monetary help.

Applicants are not granted financial assistance based on relationships between church leaders and being a significant church contributor. The church does not discriminate between applicants based upon race, color, sex, national origin, age, geographic territory, or disability. The church Benevolence Fund directors may provide short-term (or emergency) assistance to ensure that an applicant has the basic necessities such as food, housing, transportation, and medical assistance (including counseling).

If Monetary assistance is provided, the method of providing assistance is to pay for the applicant’s need directly to the business or service provider that the request is in reference to. Assistance may also be provided in the form of goods and services. The type of aid that is appropriate depends on the individual’s needs and available church resources.

The church does not want to just meet a physical, short-term need but desires to see you grow spiritually, and to have the long-term, eternal effect of seeing you have your spiritual needs met and ultimately making it to Heaven. Therefore, we are asking you to consider some basic requirements and guidelines that will benefit you eternally and also make the church the best steward of God’s money that we possibly can be.

Initial: _____

Basic Requirements

1. Need to be related to a short-term financial crisis (medical emergency, accident, loss of job, etc.)

Exclusions

1. Most, if not all, legal fees especially related to family disputes

2. Long Term and repetitive expenses.

Benevolence Process

1. Complete and submit the Benevolence Request Form to your church contract.
2. A Church Benevolence Fund director will bring the form to the Benevolence Fund Council for approval (note: typically, this group meets one a week to discuss related matters).
3. The Benevolence Fund Council will approve and deny the request, or may ask for additional information.
4. If approved, a check will be distributed as soon as the secretary can process the check and a required second approved signature for the check is obtained.
5. A Benevolence Fund director may follow up with the recipient and give an update at the next Benevolence Fund Council meeting.

Possible Additional Criteria

At the discretion of the Benevolence Fund Council, you may be requested (if married , both husband and wife to do or provide the following:

- (1.) Provide documentation regarding your income, personal bank accounts and expenses.
- (2.) Participate in financial/budgetary counseling.

Initial: _____

Benevolence Request Form

Name: _____

Date: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone #(Home): _____

(Cell): _____

(Work): _____

1. In your opinion, which description best describes your financial situation?

- a. Short-term emergency b. Short-term problem
c. long-term, consistent problem

2. The total amount of your request is \$ _____

3. What is it for? _____

4. If approved, what business or provider should we make the check payable to?

5. Are you willing to receive financial counselling from the church? Yes/no

6. Are you currently employed? Yes/no If no, how long? _____

Name and phone # of employer: _____

How long have you been employed with this company? _____

7. Is your spouse employed? Yes/no If no, how long? _____

Name and phone # of employer: _____

How long have you been employed with this company? _____

8. Total number of people in the household? _____

9. Total weekly household income: _____

10. Briefly describe your needs and what led you to request assistance.

We will be praying for you, provide financial counsel where needed and will help as the church benevolence budget allows. With your signature below, you verify before God that all provided information is correct and truthful.

Signature

date

Spouse's Signature

date