

PEACE FUND ~ FONDOS POR LA PAZ APPLICATION GUIDELINES

BPFNA~Bautistas por la Paz has funding available for small grants to support both local and world peace projects. In order to receive funding, applicants must meet the criteria expressed in these guidelines.

Christ came not only to bring spiritual reconciliation but also to initiate a redeemed and healed social order. As we seek to follow Jesus, we take up this message of liberation and reconciliation, and act on it by **equipping**, **mobilizing**, and **gathering** to build a culture of peace rooted in justice. Peace Fund applications will need to be linked to achieving the goals stated in one of these categories:

- **Equipping:** We equip individuals, regional groups, and congregations with tools for spoken witness and the hands-on work of peace rooted in justice. Proposals for carrying out training should aim at bringing new skills to the community and building capacity for peacemaking. Examples: Conflict Transformation Training or Anti-Racism Training
- **Mobilizing:** We mobilize individuals, groups, and churches, in response to pressing concerns – guided by the wisdom of those whose realities are local to the concern at hand. Proposals under this category should be designated to assist indigenous or local people in the affected area to facilitate a compassionate and just response. A responsible project is one that will build capacity for a culture of peace. Examples: Examples of mobilizing that we have supported include supporting a community group working against a cement plant that would harm the local environment and economy, helping people attend protests against the disappearance of the 43 Mexican students from Ayotzinapa, and supporting participation in the People’s Climate March.
- **Gathering:** We gather together regionally and internationally to mutually strengthen and support one another’s witness through community prayer, education, fellowship, and song. Gatherings are an essential part of peacemaking and of building community. Gatherings funded by the Peace Fund need to have a clear objective to build friendships and understanding across cultures and/or to build relationships for working together on a particular issue for peace. Funding for gatherings may cover the cost of hosting a dialogue group, scholarship aid for participants on a tour, the cost of advertising a tour, and similar expenses. Examples: Friendship Tours or Interfaith Gatherings

REQUIREMENTS

We will only consider applications that meet the criteria for one of the three categories outlined above. We will prioritize:

- Ongoing relationships between our organization and grant recipients
- Projects that are tailored for their local context
- Projects that develop and strengthen local, indigenous leadership
- Projects for which our limited funding can make a significant impact

The strongest applications will meet several of these priorities.

Please note that applicants have up to three years to repeat applications to this fund. Applicants for funds for a consecutive year are expected to provide a report on their projects for the approval of further support, since it is not automatically guaranteed. Those who receive support for three consecutive years are not eligible for a fourth year and must wait for two years before reapplying to the same program. This measure allows BPFNA~Bautistas por la Paz to extend support to as many applicants as possible.

REPORTS

Applicants are expected to fulfill the terms of the proposal, including a full report back to us, independently of the category in which they are classified. The report should ideally include how the money was spent, how well you accomplished your goals, what challenges you faced and how the project will affect the long-term situation that it was intended to mitigate, defuse, or otherwise change for the better. Reports and their content may be used for dissemination in BPFNA~Bautistas por la Paz communication outlets, hence applicants should make sure consent and/or copyright requirements allow for the use of photographs, images and documents generated during the project.

Reports should be submitted within 60 days of the project's completion.

Failure to fulfill the terms of the proposal, including a full report back to us, will make the recipient ineligible to apply for future funding.

MAXIMUM AMOUNT AVAILABLE

Because our funding is limited, we will typically only be able to provide partial funding. **The maximum grant currently available through this fund is \$1,500 USD.** Grant requests over \$1,500 USD will not be considered.

Only one group or individual is eligible to apply for one grant per calendar year.

PROCEDURE AND SCHEDULE

To apply for this fund, please fill [this form](#), with as many details in the application as possible. You may send separate sheets to present your proposed project budget and your projected timeline, or to more completely describe the project and how it fits into these guidelines to erica@bpfna.org.

Applications are due on April 5, 2024 for funding in 2023.