

CENTRAL ENGLAND QUAKERS - FUNDING FOR FRIENDS AND ATTENDERS

FOR PASTORAL FRIENDS & LM TREASURERS (Revised January 2024)

AREA MEETING GENERAL FUND:

The purpose of the General Fund is to support Quaker activities across the Area Meeting and also beyond (e.g. Britain Yearly Meeting, ecumenical links with Church organisations in the West Midlands). Current Budget statements show the range of commitments supported by the General Fund. These include allowances which are set aside for training for Friends for specific roles within the Area Meeting and for Friends attending conferences and courses.

FUNDING FOR ATTENDANCE ON CONFERENCES AND COURSES:

There is a distinction between:

- (a) Funding for Friends undertaking essential training or Friends appointed by Area Meeting to attend specific events. The work undertaken by Friends appointed to specific roles by Area Meeting contributes to the governance of the charity and we have a duty, as a charity and a Religious Society, to equip our volunteers and staff properly for their governance tasks.
- (b) Bursary support for activities which are aimed at Friends' spiritual nourishment or personal development.

FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS:

- Area Meeting provides full funding, from the Area Meeting General Fund, for the cost of training courses (internal or external) and associated travel expenses for Friends *undertaking specific Quaker roles*, appointed via the Area Meeting nominations committee such as Area Meeting Clerk, Elder, Pastoral Friend, Treasurer, Examiner, Trustee, Chaplain, etc. For Local Meeting appointed roles, the Area Meeting will cover these costs if the Local Meeting is unable to do so.
- Full funding is also provided to Friends *appointed by Area Meeting* to attend specific conferences or events which involve a fee and/or travel expenses.
- *Applications for funding for such training courses, events and conferences should be made by email to the Principal Officer, Sarah Barker, sarah.barker@ceaqm.org.uk together with any relevant supporting minutes.*
- For Friends wishing to attend other conferences or courses, at their own request, e.g. Britain Yearly Meeting/Gathering, bursary support is available from Area Meeting, using the following procedure:-
 - The Friend should first approach his/her Local Meeting Pastoral Friends, who would consider the request and determine what the Friend can afford and what support the Local Meeting could provide. If further support is needed, the request should be passed to the Area Meeting Bursaries Committee who would consider the request and decide on the amount of bursary support to be offered from central AM funds. Bursaries Committee would then make a recommendation to the Principal Officer.
 - Typically, Area Meeting would meet 25% of the cost, the Local Meeting a further 25% and the Friend concerned, the remainder. The Bursaries Committee has discretion to agree a higher proportion of the costs where Pastoral Friends consider that more help is needed or when the local Meeting is unable to give as much financial help themselves.
 - Applications should be sent to the convenor of the CEQ Bursaries Committee through Local Meeting Pastoral Friends, preferably as a minute. It is helpful if this is done by e-mail as it enables the Bursaries Committee to respond more quickly.
 - The following information should be included:
 - name of the Friend(s) concerned
 - title, date and other relevant details of the event which they wish to attend
 - total cost of the event
 - amount of bursary which is requested
 - amount which the Local Meeting will contribute
 - information regarding payment: name & bank account details

The sequence for seeking additional Bursary funding from Area Meeting can be summarised as follows:-

Friend <i>(request)</i>	to	LM Pastoral Friends <i>(minute support)</i>	to	AM Bursaries Committee <i>(recommend to Principal Officer)</i>	to	Principal Officer <i>(authorises and arranges payment)</i>
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- Note re. Courses at Woodbrooke

Friends applying for courses at Woodbrooke are to be advised as follows:

- (a) If the Friend applies, in person, to Woodbrooke we would ask that the Friend specifically requests Woodbrooke to forward (by email) the relevant invoice to the Principal Officer
- (b) If the Friend makes the application on the Woodbrooke website and pays for the course online, hoping to receive either full or partial bursary funding from Area Meeting, they must ensure that the invoice (or email copy of it) is sent to the Principal Officer

- An estimate of expenditure on fees, grants and bursaries will be included in the General Fund budget for each year. Records of all grants and bursaries will be kept and a commentary on expenditure over the year will be included in the annual report to Area Meeting by the Area Meeting treasurer.

OTHER FUNDS WHICH MAY BE CONSULTED FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE include:

BYM Grants for Young Adult Quakers (18-35) youngadultgrants@quaker.org.uk

- BYM Financial Relief Grant
- Quaker Events and Learning Grant *(to support with the cost of attending courses and events)*
- Living Adventurously Grant *(to support young adults in service they feel led to do as part of their Quaker witness)*

- BYM Grants for Friends of Any Age grants@quaker.org.uk

- Hope Grants *(to improve quality of life for members or attenders unemployed or unable to make a living wage)*
- Adult Education Grants *(for continuing education as a mature student)*
- Prospect Grants *(to support the move from unemployment to self-employment)*

Details of all of these grants can be found at <https://quaker.org.uk/our-work/grant-making>

Grants from Other Organisations

- The Charities of Susanna Cole & Others *(support for a variety of needs)*
- Friends Housing Bursary Trust *(maintenance, repairs, adaptations and care fees for elderly and disabled Friends in need)*. <https://fhbt.org.uk>
- Pollard and Dickson Trust *(prevention/relief of poverty; grants to individuals); :* pollardanddickson@gmail.com lqpt.org/pollard-and-dickson-trust/
- William Gunn's Charity *(grants to individual Members in financial need; paying for services and/or items needed)* <https://williamgunnscharity.org>
- Quaker Mental Health Fund *(provide grants to individuals of up to £1000 to support mental health)* www.quakermhfund.uk
- Soothern & Craner Educational Foundation *(for education related expenses for girls & young women in Coventry)*
- S C Witting Trust *(small grants for specific items for those in financial need or students)* scwittingtrust@quaker.org.uk
- Woodbrooke Bursary Scheme *(re. attendance on courses)* www.woodbrooke.org.uk/learn/financial-support/woodbrooke-bursaries/
- Glenthorne Quaker Centre Bursary Fund *(for people in need of a holiday but who cannot finance it, carers in need of a rest break or for attendance at their Quaker events)* Glenthorne.org/charity-work-bursary-fund/

Enquiries regarding bursaries for Quaker schools should be made to the schools concerned.

January 2024