

**Mennonite Healthcare Fellowship  
Steven Roth Memorial Grant Program  
Grant Guidelines 2017-18**

**Background**

The **Steven Roth Memorial Grant Program** began in its present form in 2013. It carries on the legacy of the Steven Roth Fund (SRF) which was begun under Mennonite Medical Association (MMA) following the untimely death of Steven J. Roth of undifferentiated adeno-carcinoma on December 22, 1990.

Steven Roth was a student at Ohio State University College of Medicine in Columbus, Ohio when he died. His plans after medical school were to serve in some form of mission practice overseas or in this country. The Fund was originally designed to pay the interest on educational debt for a qualified MMA member candidate for medical voluntary service during the years of such continuous service following medical school. Eventually, the family and friends who started the fund approved other usages for the fund involving missions and/or education.

The Fund was transferred to Mennonite Healthcare Fellowship (MHF) at its inception in 2011. At first, it was seen as a kind of sub-fund of a larger Mobilization for Mission (MFM) Fund which was primarily used for the Student Elective Term (SET) program. Since both MFM and SRF funds were also being requested and used for additional mission-related projects, the MHF Board, with the blessing of the Roth family, made a decision in June 2013 to combine the funds and further define the programs for their usage.

To honor the memory of Steven Roth, the Steven Roth Memorial Grant Program was established as one of the primary programmatic usages of the combined Mobilization for Mission Fund (MFM). As of September 1, 2016, MFM has been integrated into MHF's new Missional Budget Plan.

**Purpose of the Steven Roth Memorial Grant Program ("Grant Program")**

The purpose of the Grant Program is to aid MHF members around the world as they volunteer in educational and/or service-oriented projects which contribute to the missional purposes of the church. The grant is especially suited for MHF members who are still in the education phase, working to pay off loans, or working in volunteer or low-income settings. The Grant Program provides the opportunity for such persons to receive the support of the larger MHF community for volunteer mission and service projects in which they are personally participating.

**Administrative Guidelines**

- A. The MHF Board, in consultation with the Community and Global Services SIG establishes an annual budget out of the Mobilization for Mission Fund for the Steven Roth Memorial Grant Program. The budget approved for 2017-18 is \$4,000 2 persons @ \$2,000).

- B. MHF members with sufficient means are encouraged to contribute beyond their standard membership contributions with extra contributions to assure the continuation of these grants.

### **Steven Roth Memorial Grant Program - Guidelines for Grant Application**

- A. Submission of Funding Proposals
  1. A current MHF membership of any kind is required for proposal submission.
  2. Proposals will be received by the MHF Executive Director.
  3. Proposals will be called for and deadlines announced for March 15 and September 15 of each year. Deadlines can be changed or extended at the discretion of the Executive Director.
  4. A simple form is available the MHF Office for submission of proposals.
- B. Evaluation Process
  1. All proposals will be submitted to the Global Services Group for evaluation and recommendation.
  2. The Global Services Group will send a recommendation (yes or no) for each proposal to the MHF Board of Directors.
  3. The Board can approve proposals either by email or at a scheduled meeting.
  4. The MHF Office will notify recipients of the status of their proposals and arrangements will be made for payment on approved proposals.
- C. Criteria for proposal evaluation
  1. The purpose for which the funds are requested should be stated clearly. This would normally involve a specific project, with a specific location, task, and time frame.
  2. MHF members should have a personal working connection with the project.
  3. The project should have a reasonable expectation of effectiveness.
  4. The project's values and projected outcomes should be consistent with the mission and values of Mennonite Healthcare Fellowship and the Mennonite Church.
  5. Any organizations receiving funds for the project should have a reputation of programmatic and fiscal integrity.
  6. The project should enhance the missional awareness and outlook of the MHF member participant.
  7. Preference will be given to projects which enhance the education of the MHF member participant in the practice of his/her profession and the mission of the church.
  8. Preference will be given to MHF members with greater financial need for funding in order to carry out the project.

Paul D. Leichty, Executive Director  
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