

## CBFNC Mission Resource Plan Update

Spring 2018

The CBFNC Mission Resource Plan (MRP), developed in 2004 as a replacement for the Baptist State Convention's Plan C, is the vehicle used by many of our churches to fund our collective missional endeavors, including CBF Global, historic North Carolina Baptist institutions, and CBFNC ministries. We have made periodic modifications to the MRP since its inception. Based on a ministry discernment process by a 20th Anniversary Vision Team and the Coordinating Council since 2012, we are now seeking to align current missional priorities with our historic partners, which churches and CBFNC have supported through the MRP.

While the MRP served our churches, partners, and CBFNC-led ministries well throughout much of this history, circumstances and needs have changed drastically since its inception. The Partnership Development Committee has recommended and the Coordinating Council has approved transitioning the MRP from a *fixed percentage for partners to funding partners through the CBFNC unified budget based on the unique needs of each partner*. This MRP modification will take place with the new CBFNC budget year beginning *April 1, 2019*. During the past two years, we have been communicating regularly with our partners who receive funding through the MRP about these coming changes. In addition, our committee has been communicating with congregational ministry leaders since September 2017 through e-mail and/or personal telephone calls.

We believe this new way of funding our ministry partners will have some clear advantages:

1. This new funding structure will show the exact dollars that flow from the churches through CBFNC to our partners.
2. Churches may still designate funds to partners. Designated gifts will be honored in full.
3. This approach also will give CBFNC more flexibility in funding the priorities that have been identified by constituents, and align our mutual priorities more fully with ministry partners.
4. The unified approach will allow us to be more nimble and flexible in meeting changing needs of our partners and CBFNC.
5. This approach will enable CBFNC and partners more fully to engage in our shared desire for *"missional collaboration"* (*working together on common missional goals*). By developing funding plans together, rather than simply reporting on expenditures, CBFNC and its partners can more effectively reflect the priorities of the individuals and churches in our Fellowship.

We are thankful for your partnership, both financial and in collaborating together to impact our communities and world for Christ. Because of your faithful and generous giving, we are able to bring together Baptists in North Carolina to do Christ-centered ministry. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this new approach to funding our partners, please contact one of the members of our Partnership Development Committee for further conversation.

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## Partner Affirmations

*Campbell University Divinity School is grateful for the way that CBFNC has dealt with the ever-changing landscape of church life. CBFNC has included its partner schools in discussions about the changes needed to the MRP, and has welcomed our input. We count ourselves blessed to have CBFNC as a partner, not only in financial support, but even more in opportunities to serve the churches of North Carolina.*

- Andy Wakefield, Dean, Campbell University Divinity School

*Chowan is very grateful for financial support from CBFNC congregations. This funding has enabled our students to learn and serve in Jesus's name. For the past 3 years, the Partnership Development Committee, Larry Hovis, and Greg Rogers (our liaison) have alerted us that the MRP funding and distribution is going to change. With each meeting and phone call, I have been amazed at the concern and transparency in this process. We recognize that CBFNC's budget has to adapt for the future and we look forward to adapting with CBFNC.*

- Lou Ann Gillian, Church Relations Director, Chowan University

*Effective mission and ministry require clarity and focus to be effective. CBFNC's new approach to the Mission Resource Plan addresses both of these critical needs and helps partners better align their work with CBFNC's priorities and resources. The new Mission Resource Plan helps everyone practice better stewardship with the resources God has given us.*

- Chris Gambill, Director, Center for Congregational Health, Wake Forest University Baptist Health

*Gardner-Webb University appreciates the transparency with which CBFNC has introduced the changes to the Mission Resource Plan. Furthermore, we understand the funding challenges facing many non-profits and we share the ongoing desire to be good stewards of the resources entrusted to us. As a university whose purpose is "to advance the Kingdom of God through Christian higher education," we look forward to continuing to partner with CBFNC in "bringing Baptists together for Christ-Centered ministry."*

- Church Relations Council, Gardner-Webb University

*As the leader of a CBFNC partner organization, I have valued the commitment to transparency, honesty, and clarity that has been evident throughout this deliberative process. Shared values have been affirmed and the priority of serving congregations has been amplified as CBFNC focuses on creative and proactive, rather than reactionary, responses to a changing religious and cultural environment.*

- David Wilkinson, executive director and publisher, Baptist News Global