

# *Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of North Carolina*

## *Mission Resource Plan*

### *Where Does the “CBF Fifty Cents” Go?*

The CBFNC Mission Resource Plan (MRP) is an innovative financial channel for congregations to extend their mission through historic North Carolina Baptist institutions and agencies and CBF ministries. If you follow the suggestions in the MRP, fifty cents of every dollar will go to the historic North Carolina Baptist institutions and agencies and the remaining fifty cents will go to CBF/CBFNC causes. The purpose of this document is to provide information on where the CBF/CBFNC fifty cents goes.

The MRP is thoroughly *Baptist* in that congregations have complete control as to how they allocate their mission dollars. While much of the conversation surrounding the MRP has focused on North Carolina Baptist ministries, it is important to understand, especially for those relatively new to CBF life, how CBF is helping churches and Christians accomplish their God-given mission. Though CBF and CBFNC work closely together and share the same core values, we are organized, governed and funded through separate processes. The same is true relative to the ministries funded by the two agencies.

### **Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of North Carolina**

CBFNC is a fellowship of Baptists in North Carolina who share commitments to the lordship of Jesus Christ, preserving historic Baptist freedoms, and calling out God’s gifts in Christians and churches to engage in Christ-centered ministry in our state and around the world. Our mission is *Bringing Baptists of North Carolina together for Christ-centered ministry.*

### **Missions**

Missions ministries include: North Carolina Missions (coordinating missions initiatives within the state, with a particular focus on the unreached and the most neglected; Church Planting (partnering with existing congregations to start new churches in North Carolina); Missional Churches (encouraging and equipping local churches to engage in God’s mission in their communities and wherever they feel called); and Global Missions (supporting and participating in missions outside our state, including the missions efforts of the larger CBF movement). Particular CBFNC mission projects outside North Carolina include the Village of Hope, a children’s ministry center in Kiev, the Ukraine and a partnership with the Belize Baptist Association.

### **Leadership Development**

We provide scholarships for students at partner Divinity schools, with a special emphasis on the four North Carolina institutions, and are developing a “nurture and support network” for seminarians through local churches and their leaders. We also conduct leadership development conferences, retreats and events for clergy and lay leaders; consult with congregational leaders concerning leadership development strategies and resources; and help ministers (experienced and recent seminary graduates) and churches “find each other” through a ministry of Reference and Referral.

### **Faith Development**

We sponsor youth and children’s retreats several times throughout the year as well as youth and children’s choir festivals (last year, over 1700 children and youth participated in CBFNC-sponsored events). We also conduct conferences and retreats on various other topics related to spiritual formation and faith development and consult with congregational leaders concerning faith development strategies and resources

### **Our Gatherings**

Each year, our fellowship experiences a “family reunion” in the form of the General Assembly. Usually held in a church, the assembly offers inspiring worship, informative ministry workshops, helpful resources from various ministry partners, and rich fellowship with Christians from around the state. In

addition, clergy and laity who share a common bond through CBF values and commitments gather on a regular basis, often monthly, in several regional fellowships located throughout our state.

### **Other Ministries**

We provide financial support to Baptist ministry partners, including the Baptist World Alliance, Baptist Center for Ethics, Baptist Joint Committee, Baptists Today and Associated Baptist Press. We publish a monthly newsletter, a bi-weekly email newsletter, and maintain a website. Our ministries and day-to-day operations are conducted by a paid staff which includes the Coordinator (executive director), Ministry Coordinators (who oversee ministry areas) plus support staff. Our coordinators travel around the state speaking in churches, visiting with ministers and church leaders, and facilitating CBFNC ministries.

Please visit our website at [www.cbfn.org](http://www.cbfn.org) to learn more about the ministries you support with your gifts to CBFNC.

### **Cooperative Baptist Fellowship**

CBF is a fellowship of Baptist Christians and churches who share a passion for the Great Commission of Jesus Christ and a commitment to Baptist principles of faith and practice. Our vision is *Being the presence of Christ in the word*. Our mission is *Serving Christians and churches as they discover and fulfill their God-given mission*.

CBF ministries are summarized by four Strategic Initiatives:

- Faith Formation
  - Evangelism and Outreach
  - Spiritual Growth
- Building Community
  - Congregational health
  - Baptist identity and relationships
  - Reconciliation and justice
  - Marriage and family ministries
  - Ecumenical and interfaith dialogue
  - Chaplains and pastoral counselors – CBF has endorsed over 400 chaplains and pastoral counselors.
- Leadership Development
  - Congregational leadership development
  - Theological education – CBF partners with thirteen theological schools which have a combined enrollment of over 1,800 students.
  - Collegiate Ministry
- Global Missions and Ministries
  - Partnership missions with local churches
  - Most neglected peoples - CBF employs about 150 career missionaries.
  - Church planting

The breadth and depth of these ministries (funded by CBF's annual budget of \$16 million) is so great, the best way to learn about them is to visit the CBF website, [www.thefellowship.info](http://www.thefellowship.info).