

The Religious Society of Friends – Te Hāhi Tūhauwiri

Testimonies Fund grant application for non-Quaker groups and organisations

Grants from the Testimonies Fund are available to undertake projects which have Quaker testimonies at their heart. (See the accompanying material on the Fund.) Since none of the testimonies is exclusive to Quakers, requests may be considered from non-Quaker groups and organisations which have at least one committed Quaker actively involved in the project.

We ask for this form to be completed by one or more of the Quakers involved in the organisation and the project. If the organisation is a non-Quaker one, the form should be accompanied by a covering letter from an appropriate officer.

The first step is to share your application with the organisation concerned and with your local Meeting to assist in the discernment process, and to ensure that you will have a support and accountability structure in place. When that is done, please send us your completed application.

Please answer the questions below, using as much space as you need while maintaining the structure of the form.

Name of organisation:

If it is a charitable organization, what is its registration number?

Name and designation of the organisation's contact officer:

Address:

Telephone:

Email:

Has the organisation previously had Quaker funding for this project or a similar one? If so, please detail it:

Please write a short description of your project including:

1. Aims and objectives of what you plan to do.
2. The discernment process you have used in regard to these plans, and what indications of Quaker support you have had for them.
3. Please add the names and contact details of the appropriate officer of your Meeting who is involved in the discernment process and can act as a referee for you.

4. Please describe the location and nature of those to be benefited by your project.
5. Prospective start and finish dates.
6. The budget for the project, including any contribution from your Meeting, and the amount of financial support available or expected from other sources.
7. The amount requested in this application (we ask for a realistic request, i.e. not inflated).
8. The name and details of the bank account concerned.
9. Where else have you applied for funding for this project? At what stage are those applications?
10. Please describe the structure you and your Meeting will use to support your project and provide accountability.

If your application is successful we expect a report at completion of the project or an article (with acknowledgment of the Testimonies Fund) in the Aotearoa New Zealand Friends Newsletter.

Additional notes for Friends applying for grants from the Fund

Take as much space as you need to give us a clear picture, and if an item seems inappropriate to you then tell us why. If there's something we need to know that isn't covered in our form, please add it. It's very difficult to devise application forms to cover all projects and situations, so please don't treat our forms as straitjackets.

Above all, we do want to support Friends to be both creative and responsible in putting Quaker testimonies into action. We realise that, in asking for discernment processes and for ongoing support and accountability strategies, we are searching for that difficult balance between individual inspiration and collective wisdom which has marked Quaker decision-making throughout Friends' history. You will find help in the Quaker Handbook on testimonies, concerns and meetings for clearness. *The Handbook is available on the existing Quaker website, quaker.org.nz. In the search box, type "quaker handbook". Concerns and testimonies are covered in sections 2.3 and 2.4, and meetings for clearness in 6.4.*

We remember and treasure the advice of the Elders of Balby, as relevant now as in 1656: "Dearly beloved Friends, these things we do not lay upon you as a rule or form to walk by; but that all, with a measure of the light, which is pure and holy, may be guided: and so in the light walking and abiding, these things may be fulfilled in the Spirit, not in the letter, for the letter killeth, but the Spirit giveth life."

Please send your application to testimonies.fund@quaker.org.nz, or to The Clerk, Testimonies Fund Committee, 260 Wicksteed Street, Whanganui 4500. The present members of the Committee are: Adrian Skelton (Hawkes Bay), Liz Remmerswaal (Hawkes Bay), Jan-Louise Hamblyn (Whanganui) and David James (Whanganui). You can discuss possible applications with any of them.