

# Anti-Racism Fund funding clarification, details, and gratitude

From: Hillary Coleman, Moderator  
April 11, 2022

Dear Conference,

As you know, at last year's Annual Meeting PNCUCC delegates committed to antiracism in our Constitution and voted to budget \$52,000 for antiracism work. We recently sent a letter to delegates of that Annual Meeting for whom we had email information inviting people to make a donation to the Antiracism Fund in solidarity with Black, Brown, Indigenous, Pacific Islander, and Asian clergy in our Conference. I've received some questions and feedback about this letter - thank you.

I want to clarify that the Conference is committed to fully fund that amount as the Antiracism Fund with \$52,000 for FY22 (which is from June 2021-May 2022) regardless of the amount of funds raised through donations. The board has been working with the Stewardship Committee and staff to set up a designated Antiracism Fund that ensures that any money put into the budget for the Antiracism Fund last year and in the future is transferred to a designated fund, which will not expire if not spent within the budgeted year. This step is important because often if a budget line item is not spent down by the end of the budget year, remaining money returns to the general fund.

The Conference has two ways to fulfill the \$52,000 commitment: use board-controlled reserve funds and/or receive additional funds from people throughout the PNC for this antiracism priority initiative. The fundraising letter was an invitation to people and churches to contribute to the Conference's Antiracism Fund, which was a type of contribution that some at the Annual Meeting said they may want to make. I do hope that people will prayerfully consider making contributions to the Antiracism Fund. I want to assure you, the Conference, that if the fundraising goal of \$52,000 is not reached, we will use board-controlled reserve funds to have a total of \$52,000 available in the Antiracism Fund in FY22. This has been the board's plan, and I apologize for not more clearly communicating this with the Conference.

The [FY23 proposed budget](#) that will be presented to delegates at the Annual Meeting later this month includes an additional \$52,000 transfer to the Antiracism Fund, which the Board considers to be an important part of our whole Conference budget. As with any parts of the Conference budget, we are able to best support the work of the Conference with regular contributions to OCWM and donations to the Conference. We've also been funding our budgets for a number of years using money from reserve funds.

The spirit is continuing to move and guide this work. As I have shared in the [Annual Report](#), in September the board voted "to spend the money designated for antiracism in

our 2021-2022 budget at the direction of our Clergy of Color” if this is something that our Black, Brown, Indigenous, Pacific Islander, and Asian clergy consent to doing. Thank you to board members Indigo Brown, Dawn Koloï, Jennifer Castle, and Esther Sanders for leading the board’s antiracism working group and to Indigo Brown and Dawn Koloï for designing an antiracist process with leadership from Black, Brown, Indigenous, Pacific Islander, and Asian clergy in our Conference to guide work related to the Antiracism Fund. They are preparing an update to share ahead of and at the Annual Meeting about this exciting and spirit-filled work.

Thank you to everyone for joining together on this journey to figure out what it looks like to make our Conference more antiracist and to have antiracist processes. I am grateful to those who brought forth questions about the letter, whether directly to me or to others, because this is what it looks like to be in community together and to speak up when it seems like something may not be aligned with our antiracism commitment.

I welcome your continued feedback.

With gratitude,

Hillary