

**Ministry And Counsel** proposes the meeting begin a Fund for Assisting Friends.

**2018-09-XX:** We approve the creation of Old Chatham Meeting's Fund for Assisting Friends, as described below:

**Purpose:** To provide aid and assistance to OCMM members and attenders who are in need and who are in need because of fidelity to Friends' testimonies. Preferably, applicants will have attended for at least one year and are actively participating in the life of the meeting.

**Fund:** Ministry & Counsel (M&C) proposes that a fund be started for which the balance will carry over from year to year. Each year M&C may request contributions from the operating budget. Individual voluntary contributions must be earmarked directly to this fund, which would accumulate with a beginning goal of \$2,500. When money is given by a donor for the fund, it must be clearly marked as a gift. M&C will oversee the distribution of this fund for confidentiality and pastoral care purposes.

**Repayment Schedule:** Repayment will be discussed but not necessarily expected. Money can be gifted at the committee's discretion. If repayment is made, the applicant will present a schedule to the committee, and no interest will be charged.

**Applications:** These are to consist of name, address, phone number, and e-mail address, the amount requested, and reason(s) for request. The rendering of assistance will rest on evidence that the applicant has been diligent in self-help and in the search for alternate resources. Budget counseling, psychological counseling, or any other type of counseling or resources can be recommended at the committee's discretion.