

209-1 BROTHERHOOD FUND

The Brotherhood Fund (BF) is a voluntary fund for delegates to travel to International Conventions. In 1968, the Brotherhood Fund was called the "Bishop's Fund", after similar funds used by bishops of certain religious denominations they deemed proper. Early in its history, the fund consisted of money over from an International Convention. Much of this money came from the sale of used postage stamps, saved around the world and marketed through Y's Men agents. Other money comes from fines levied on members in fun of course. Some clubs, believing in fun of course, contribute to BF from their regular funds. As of 2005 - 2006, contributions to the fund were US \$168,656.

Each year the International Council budgets monies for Inter-Club visits. Some funds are used for Men's movement.

Participants are varied. They can be a local Y's Man, a YMCA staff member, or a member of the Region, Area or through a selection process. It is expected that anyone receiving a grant will spend a minimum of three weeks on travel, visitation, and YMCA's. If you should be chosen it would be your home you would make yourself available for club visits to share your experiences from the trip.

On occasion, block grants are awarded to an Area so that Y's Men may be selected to attend an Area Y's Men meeting. Some of these are "partial" grants, in that they require you to spend extra time on club visits.

Here are some points you would be interested in, if you were chosen to be a BF delegate. When travelling within an Area you will meet by a fellow Y's Man and passed from one to another. You will stay in Y's Men's homes so you can experience the exchange of small gifts is customary, so it's a good exchange of easy-to-carry gifts for the peasy-to-carry gifts for banners from your club and/or Region. Brotherhood is a great experience, so when you forget your pin today's mail, you are helping someone, somewhere, today's mail, you are helping. Perhaps next time it will be you.

For any member who may wish to refer to the sample application Form BF-2, refer to the sample application Form BF-2, re Application Form, located in the Appendix section.

