

GULF COAST COMMUNITY CHURCH OF BRANDON
Benevolence Request Form

Member of Gulf Coast Community Church of Brandon: Yes No

Do you have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ? _____

In your opinion, which best describes your personal financial situation:

Short Term Emergency

Short Term Problem

Long Term Problem

Total Amount Requested: _____

Purpose: _____

Check payable to (billing company or other): _____

Send Check to: _____

Are you willing to receive financial counseling? Yes No

Are you currently employed? Yes No Full-time Part-time

Name of employer: _____

Supervisor contact information: _____

If married, is spouse employed? Yes No Full-time Part-time

Total number of people in household: _____

Total Weekly Income \$ _____ (include all sources)

Reason for benevolence (be as specific as possible): _____

Other assets (savings, 401K, equity, etc.): _____

Amount requester can contribute to bill or payment: \$ _____

Amount family can contribute to bill or payment: \$ _____

Past benevolence given: \$ _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Spouse Signature: _____ Date: _____

Benevolence Committee Members: _____

Date Approved/Meeting: _____

Approved via Email Approved at Meeting Need additional info Disapproved

More information needed: _____

Check Dated: _____ Check #: _____

Mailed to: _____ Given to person on form Other: _____

Gulf Coast Community Church of Brandon Benevolence Process Guidelines

The purpose of the Benevolence Fund is to provide financial aid to an individual who is in need on an urgent basis. The Benevolence Fund may not be applicable for cases which need long-term financial support. The church has the right to adjust or to disapprove an applicant's request and may consider providing assistance other than monetary help.

Applicants are not granted financial assistance based on relationships between church leaders or being a significant church contributor. The church does not discriminate between applicants based upon race, color, sex, national origin, age, geographic territory, or disability. The Benevolence Committee may provide short-term (or emergency) assistance to ensure that an applicant has the basic necessities such as food, housing, transportation, and medical assistance (including counseling).

The preferred method of assistance is to pay for the applicant's need directly to the business provider. Assistance may also be provided in the form of goods or services. The type of aid that is appropriate depends on the individual's needs and available resources.

Basic Requirements

1. Need must be related to a short-term financial crisis (medical emergency, accidents, loss of job, etc.).
2. Those requesting support should be honest and transparent throughout the process to ensure the best support possible.

Exclusions

1. Legal fees related to family disputes.
2. Long term and repetitive expenses.
3. Requests that do not meet the common definition of need.

Benevolence Process

1. Complete and submit the Benevolence Request Form to a Deacon or Elder.
2. The contacted Deacon or Elder will submit the form to the committee.
3. A Committee Member will contact an applicant regarding the request.
4. The Committee will approve, request more information, or disapprove (min 3 members). Approval requires a majority vote of the committee. A decision will be made no later than 2 weeks from request.
5. If approved, a check or other form or support will be distributed.
6. A Committee Member will follow up with the applicant to notify them of the result.

Additional Criteria

At the committee's discretion, you may be requested to do one or more of the following:

1. Provide additional documentation (pay stubs, bank statements, 401K statements, bills, assets, other financial assistance provided, etc.).
2. Provide receipt of payment if payment is made directly to the individual.
3. Participate in financial counseling.
4. Take a class on biblical financial management.

Dispute Resolution

If the person requesting help is denied support and either believes the Benevolence Committee decision was not Biblically based or was not arrived at in a fair and open manner, then the requestor can bring the matter to the Gulf Coast Community Church of Brandon leadership for resolution. The requestor will submit their dispute in writing to one of the elders. Once received, a Gulf Coast Community Church of Brandon elder (not involved in the process) or an elder of an affiliate church, will review the dispute and decide whether to:

1. Send back to the committee to re-examine any facts or circumstances not considered.
2. Fund the request.
3. Deny the request for support.

The requestor will be informed of the elder's decision in writing.