

**GENERAL CONVENTION OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH 2009  
ARCHIVES' RESEARCH REPORT**

**RESOLUTION NO.:** 2009-A114  
**TITLE:** Funding Mission Funding Office  
**PROPOSER:** Standing Commission on Stewardship and Development  
**COMMITTEE:** Stewardship and Development

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**Directly Related:** (attached)

2003-A140      Establish a Mission Funding Office for the Church  
2003-B004      Appoint a Mission Funding Task Force

**Indirectly Related:**

2003-A075      Charge Dioceses to Foster a Culture of Mission  
1994-A040      Support Mission Programs at Local, Diocesan and Provincial Levels  
1982-A151      Adopt a Policy for Long-range Planning

*In preparing this report, the Archives researched the resolutions of General Convention for the period 1976 through 2006, selecting "direct" resolutions that have a substantive bearing on the proposed legislation. Committee members who are interested in obtaining copies of "indirectly related" resolutions, legislative history before 1976, or who require other research assistance should contact the Archives at 800-525-9329 before Convention or at Convention in the General Convention Secretariat.*



**Resolution Number:** 2003-A140  
**Title:** Establish a Mission Funding Office for the Church  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred as Amended  
**Final Text:**

***Resolved, That in recognition of the 20/20 initiatives, creating a need to raise large sums of money for mission and the very real potential for major gifts that parish and diocesan funding efforts do not attract; the 74th General Convention urge the Presiding Bishop and Executive Council to establish a Mission Funding Office for The Episcopal Church, grounded in the stewardship theology of this church; and be it further***

***Resolved, That this office initiate a discernment process for a church-wide mission funding effort focused on, but not limited to, the 20/20 initiatives and on fostering cooperative seeking of new funds at all levels of the church.***

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Minneapolis, 2003* (New York: General Convention, 2004), p. 590.



**Resolution Number:** 2003-B004  
**Title:** Appoint a Mission Funding Task Force  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred as Substituted  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved, That in light of the need for resources to fulfill the 20/20 initiatives and to more fully address the many issues facing The Episcopal Church at all levels, this 74th General Convention direct the Presiding Bishop and the President of the House of Deputies to appoint a task force of 12 people, including, among others, members of the Standing Commission on Stewardship and Development, the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance and the Committee on the State of the Church. This task force is to be named the Mission Funding Task Force; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the Mission Funding Task Force will undertake a comprehensive study on the systems and procedures for funding, budgeting, and expenditure of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society; and be it further*

*Resolved That this study include, but not be limited to the following issues:*

- The level of the church at which mission support is most efficient
- The best use of resources and the possible need for redirection of resources
- The effectiveness in supporting our stated priorities
- Possible unexplored efficiencies
- The review of existing commitments with quantification of the discretionary funding amount remaining after funding those commitments
- The most efficient and equitable method of funding the budget
- The encouragement of mutual responsibility, equity, and accountability to and among the dioceses of the church.

**The Task Force will report its findings and recommendations for consideration at the 75th General Convention; and be it further**

*Resolved, That the General Convention request the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance to consider a budget allocation of \$75,000 for the implementation of this resolution.*

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Minneapolis, 2003* (New York: General Convention, 2004), p. 632.

**17 - Stewardship and Development**

A114

TOPIC/TITLE: Funding Mission Funding Office  
PROPOSER: Standing Commission on Stewardship and Development  
C&C PAGE:  
BB PAGE: 612

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- 1 *Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That the 76th General Convention fully fund
- 2 Mission Funding Initiative to raise \$250,000,000 over the next six years; and be it further
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- 4 *Resolved*, That in order to ensure that the office of Mission Funding is adequately funded for
- 5 success, the Standing Commission on Stewardship and Development calls upon each diocese to
- 6 increase its payment to the General Convention budget by 1% of its annual assessment for each
- 7 year in the 2010-2012 triennium, as a supplement designated for support of the Office of Mission
- 8 Funding; and be it further
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- 10 *Resolved*, That the General Convention request the Joint Standing Committee on Program,
- 11 Budget and Finance to consider a budget allocation of \$5,000,000 for the implementation of this
- 12 Resolution.
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**EXPLANATION:**

In 2003, this Commission made the following statement: "The Episcopal Church is rich in undeveloped economic resources. At both local and national levels the church needs advice on how we might creatively use our assets to underwrite and enable our vision. A new development arm must be established to seek major gifts to leverage the massive inter-generational transfer of capital funds that is now occurring in the United States." In 2005, an Executive Council Task Force recommended the formation of the Office of Mission Funding, and the Executive Council established the Mission Funding Initiative, which was subsequently ratified at the 2006 General Convention. Since then planning for these funds has proceeded, and the Mission Funding Office has developed case statements for several capital funds. Mission Funding needs expanded staff capacity to develop relationships and cultivate donors. It needs a budget adequate to meet both the need and opportunity. Our vision for mission has too often been too small. We think in terms of small efforts for church planting and are disappointed when our small vision reaps even smaller rewards. The Good News is life-giving and life-changing. The church should invite those who have been transformed to make gifts that will change the very nature of the church and fuel our church planting and mission development for fifty years. " Churches are often hesitant to create sophisticated mechanisms of fund development. Our hesitation results in missed opportunities. With modest, and relatively passive, means of fund development, the church has received much. With diligence, intention and action, the church can build capacities to do what God is calling us to do: build up the church and proclaim the Gospel. " The Mission Funding Initiative will allow us to create a major fund development center for The Episcopal Church that could serve all parts of the church. The assessment is for the 2010-2012 Triennium only, as it includes the expectation that future operating expenses (except salaries) will be

*Review Status:* Not Yet Reviewed by PB&F

funded from funds raised. The success of a major gifts effort requires the initial investment of major funds. If the church agrees that the proposed mission programs are vital, then it must also agree to support the Mission Funding Initiative with sufficient funds.