



**Free Methodist Church USA
39th General Conference
RESOLUTION**

INSTRUCTIONS:

Complete requested information, adding additional pages as necessary. Save and e-mail completed form to your Annual Conference office.

INTRODUCED BY: Susan Agel

ANNUAL CONFERENCE NAME: _____
Great Plains and Mid-America

WRITTEN BY: Susan Agel

General Conference Secretary - OFFICE USE ONLY

Resolution No. 408

Received Date: 12/16/2022

Resolution Committee Grade: _____

BOA Consideration: _____

GC Consideration: _____

RELATED TO PARAGRAPH 4750

Referred to Ministry Team Number:

SUBJECT OR TITLE: Further Clarity for Association of Human Service Ministries

Final Vote: Yes No

WHEREAS: ¶14750 of the Book of Discipline identifies the Association of Human Service Ministries (AHSM), sets out requirements for membership and outlines the qualification process;

WHEREAS: ¶14750 does not adequately describe the importance of AHSM agencies to the work of the Church;

WHEREAS: ¶14750 does not specify how an agency becomes a member of AHSM, but gives responsibility for oversight of AHSM to the Board of Administration;

WHEREAS: Some additional clarity is needed regarding processes and flexibility may be required depending upon the agency and other factors;

Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED:

That ¶14750 be amended as follows:

¶14750 A primary commitment of the Free Methodist Church is care for “all humans, including the unborn, regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, color, socio-economic status, disability, or any other distinctions, respecting them as persons made in the image of God and redeemed by Christ’s death and resurrection.” (See ¶13221) Due to its role in fulfilling that commitment, the Association of Human Service Ministries (AHSM) is an integral part of the Church.

A. The Association of Human Service Ministries members accredited by and receiving support from the Free Methodist Church shall report annually to the Board of Administration.

B. The Board of Administration shall:

1. be responsible for determining the process an agency must follow to become a member of AHSM. The Board will approve new members and shall also be the determining body when a member must be removed due to noncompliance or any other reason.
2. receive and examine the annual reports of each accredited ministry, including financial reports, their work and the general plan and scope of their activities and administration with a copy sent to their sponsoring annual conference; The structure and content of such reports will be determined by the Board of Administration.
3. determine if the ministry continues to qualify for accreditation by the Free Methodist Church; and If it is determined a ministry is at risk of losing accreditation, the Board of Administration shall work with the President of the Association of Human Service Ministries to contact the organization, discuss what steps are necessary to retain membership, and clarify if an agency is able to meet the requirements.
4. regulate the establishment of new human service ministries so as to avoid jeopardizing preserve fidelity of accredited institutions.

C. A new human service ministry shall not be approved without an official recommendation from its annual conference.

D. Accredited m Members of the Association of Human Service Ministries shall be listed in the Yearbook.

E. Pastors are encouraged to preach on the subject of practical charity, receiving offerings and providing opportunities for financial support. These offerings are to be used for the relief of the poor in that society or sent to an accredited human service ministry.

Annual Conference Resolutions Committee Worksheet:

Mission: To love God, love people and make disciples.

Vision: To bring wholeness to the world through healthy biblical communities of holy people multiplying disciples, leaders, groups and churches.

1. Does the resolution have a direct relationship to the vision and mission of the Free Methodist Church?

Yes

No

2. How will the proposed change help us accomplish our vision and mission?

3. The Resolutions Committee rates this resolution as:

(A) Support - recommend adoption

(B) Recommended - worthy of review

(C) Rejected - anticipate General Conference rejection

Other Comments: