

UNIVERSITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Deacon Fund *Annual Report*

*"For I can testify that they gave not only
what they could afford, but far more.
And they did it of their own free will.
2 Corinthians 8:2-3*

SUMMARY

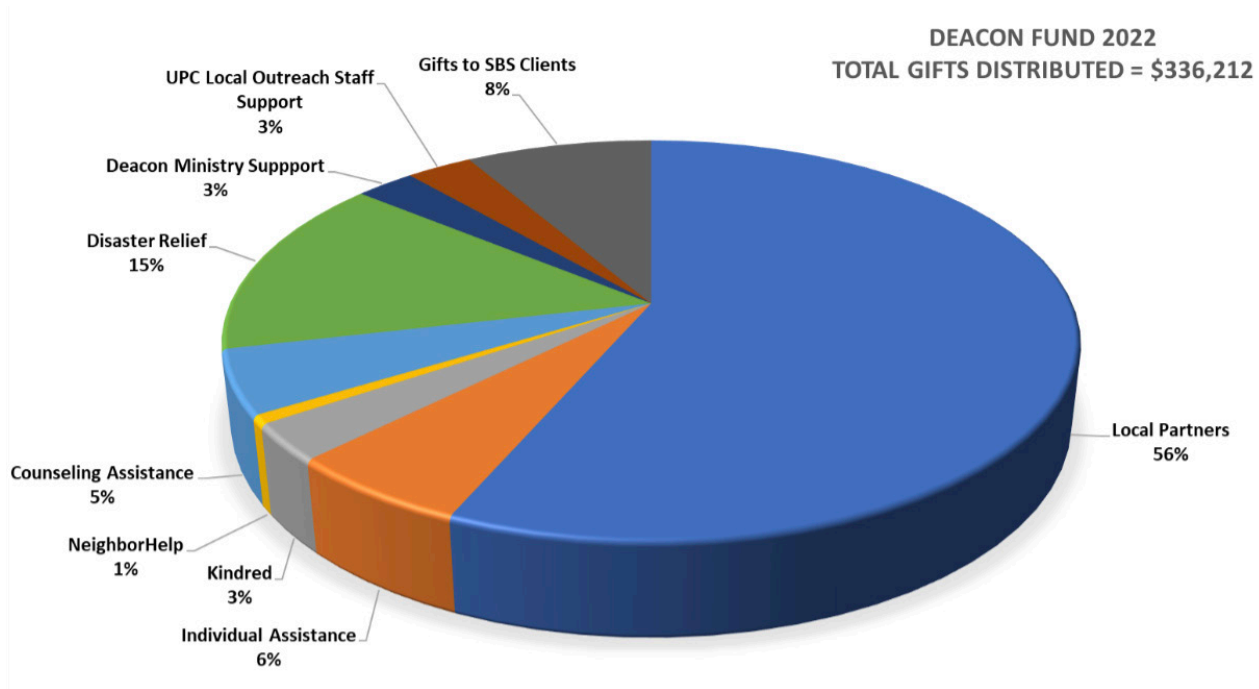
The Deacon Fund is a restricted UPC fund that is managed by the Deacon Fund Committee (DFC). The committee is made up of volunteer UPC members, many of whom are either active or retired UPC deacons. The DFC faithfully stewards these funds provided from many generous hearts and hands within the UPC family. A total of \$336,212 was distributed in FY 2022 (July 2021 through June 2022) to a variety of recipients that include: UPC members, friends and local community individuals facing financial hardship; mental health counseling for UPC members and friends; local Seattle-area non-profit mission partners; and national or global communities facing physical disasters. The DFC is continually encouraged by the generosity of the UPC family and humbly commits to careful and prayerful stewardship of these gifts to those in need.

In the interest of financial transparency with our generous donors, a further breakdown is provided below as to how DFC funds were distributed this past fiscal year.



THE UPC DEACON AND DISASTER FUND SERVES A VARIETY OF NEEDS

The chart below shows the distribution of FY22 funds by recipient category. About half of all disbursements this past year were to 11 local mission partner organizations. Another 7% or about \$24,000 was given to individuals who reached out to the DFC for assistance through our Deacon Fund and Neighbor Help request lines. (Application for Deacon Fund support can be made via email at dfrequest@upc.org or by calling 206.524.7301 ext 543.)



The UPC Neighbor Help Fund was initiated in June 2020 in response to the pandemic and is still active. This fund is intended to empower UPC congregants with the ability to come alongside and encourage those next door—family, friends, neighbors, co-workers—with quick-response, modest, financial assistance for unexpected financial stresses. Deacon Fund committee members work in collaboration with UPC members to provide assistance to those in need.

Other gift categories include mental health counseling assistance, which is administered through the UPC Congregational Care office, and an annual \$10,000 gift to the Kindred Project over the holiday season. The Deacon Fund also supports the UPC Local Outreach staff as they engage in various special projects with local mission partners, such as the Fall Back-to-School backpack program done in collaboration with the U-District Food Bank. Gifts to various communities facing physical disaster were just over \$48,000. A breakdown of how and when these gifts were distributed is summarized in the following table. Whenever possible, the Deacon Fund Committee administers these gifts, in consultation with Global Missions Pastor Ken Sunoo, through UPC ministry partners who are on the ground in the areas affected.

DEACON FUND DISASTER RELIEF GIFTS FY 2022

EVENT	GIFT AMOUNT	DATE OF GIFT	PARTNER ORGANIZATION
Haiti Earthquake	\$10,000	Aug 2021	Word Concern and Bruce Robinson
Hurricane Ida	\$5,000	Dec 2021	World Vision
PNW Flood Relief	\$5,000	Dec 2021	First Presbyterian, Bellingham
Kentucky Tornado	\$10,000	Dec 2021	PCUSA Disaster Relief
Ukraine War Relief	\$18,675	Mar 2022	Music Ministry Kiev
TOTAL	\$48,675		

Another 8% or about \$27,000 was distributed to families with a seriously ill child and facing financial hardship. The DFC administers these gifts through a cooperative agreement with the Seattle Children's Hospital and the support of an anonymous donor. The DFC works in close collaboration with case workers at Seattle Children's to aid these families.

THE UPC DEACON FUND SERVES SEATTLE-AREA MISSION PARTNERS.

Presently the DFC serves 11 local non-profit organizations with gifts from the fund. In addition to regular annual gifts to these organizations, additional special gifts may be awarded as unexpected needs or events arise. Members of the DFC are in regular contact with our partners and each organization goes through an annual survey and financial review to ensure that DFC funds are being used responsibly. In our continued support of local mission partners, the DFC collaborates with UPC staff to foster and improve UPC member volunteer opportunities.

Bridge Disability Ministries A faith-based, non-profit focused on disability assistance equipment, spiritual community, and guardianship services for the disabled community.

Divine Alternatives for Dads Services A faith-based organization that gives fathers hope in a supportive community; helping to navigate relational and legal barriers which separate them from their children and families.

Elizabeth Gregory Home A U-district non-profit that serves single homeless women in the greater Seattle area by through a Day Center, case management services, and client help with transitional housing.

Lahai Health A faith-based organization providing medical, dental, and counseling services for the underserved in North Seattle and South Snohomish counties. Lahai was formerly known as Puget Sound Christian Clinic.

Lake City Partners A non-profit organization in the Shoreline area that offers drop-in centers, long-term shelter, and relational support for the North Seattle homeless community.

Operation Nightwatch A faith-based, downtown-Seattle non-profit focused on food, shelter, long-term housing, and street ministry for Seattle's homeless population within the urban core.

Street Youth Ministries A faith-based organization serving homeless and at-risk youth ages 13-26 in the Seattle area with operations centered on the UPC campus.

University Churches Emergency Fund A University District community of churches providing financial services to

prevent homelessness.

University District Food Bank A walk-in food bank that operates four-days a week to serve individuals and families from across Northeast Seattle.

Urban Impact A faith-based, broad-spectrum, community development program in Seattle's Rainier District focused on neighborhood transformation, youth and family, health and wellness, economic development, and racial reconciliation.

World Relief A faith-based non-profit serving immigrant, refugee, and asylee populations in the Seattle area with resettlement services, community support, and economic empowerment.

THE DEACON FUND COMMITTEE AND UPC CONGREGATIONAL CARE STAFF CONTINUE A STRONG EMPHASIS ON HELPING INDIVIDUALS IN NEED.

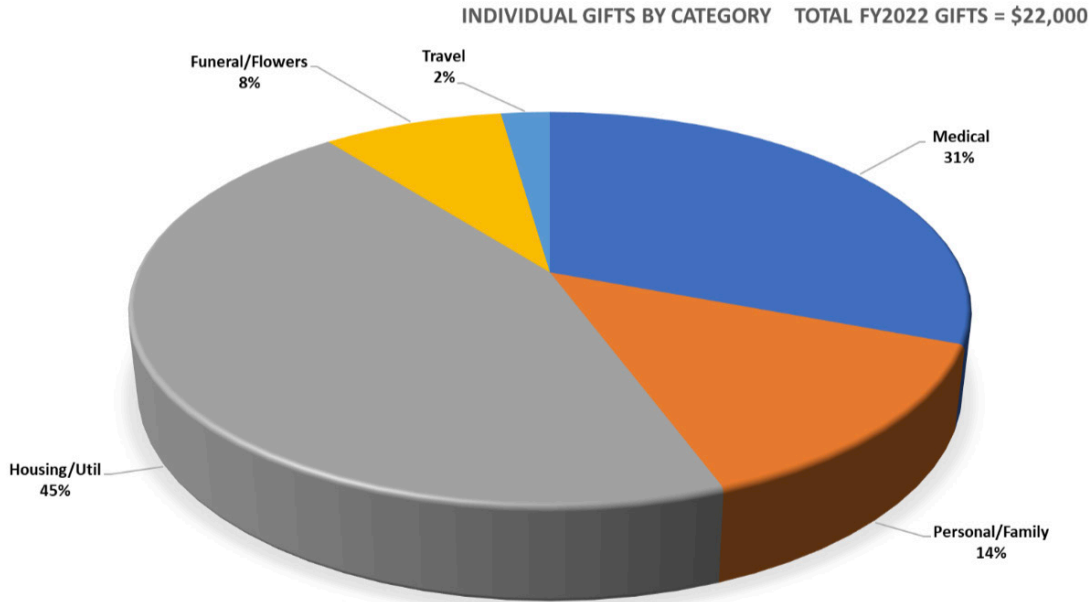
Ministry to individuals or families in need remains an important focus of the DFC. In most circumstances, we meet face-to-face with applicants to hear their stories, carefully consider how DFC may help, and offer encouragement and prayer. We maintain strict confidentiality in all our engagements with applicants. The fund is also used by UPC staff and active UPC deacons as they minister among us and bless individuals with gifts of encouragement and support.

WE SERVE INDIVIDUALS IN NEED BOTH WITHIN THE UPC FAMILY AND IN OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY.

We help UPC members, UPC visitors, friends of UPC and those in the local community with no close affiliation with UPC. Serving UPC members and friends holds high priority; however, the DFC is also intentional about being responsive to financial needs arising within our local community.

NOT SURPRISINGLY, **THE GREATEST NEED** FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IN THE SEATTLE AREA IS **HOUSING**

The chart below shows a breakdown of individual gifts for the past year by category. Housing continues to be the greatest financial need experienced among the people we serve. Seattle's housing demand continues to grow while access to affordable housing declines. We continue to see the effects of the pandemic in deferred rent accounts among many of the clients we serve.



THE DFC FOCUS IS ON SUSTAINABILITY FOR THOSE WE HELP.

A typical gift amount for an individual or family is in the range of \$1,000 to \$1,500. We evaluate applications for one time assistance based on our goal of getting the applicant to a place of financial stability. In some cases, we draw upon the UPC Financial Coaching services to help applicants gain improved money handling skills. In all the cases we handle, we make financial payments to third parties and do not make cash payments to applicants.

THANKS BE TO GOD FOR HIS BOUNDLESS GRACE AND UPC'S GENEROUS RESPONSE!

Contributions to the Deacon Fund are always welcome and can be made through the various UPC giving methods along with a Deacon Fund designation. Be assured that the 10 dedicated members of the Deacon Fund Committee continually rejoice in the generosity of the UPC family—generosity made possible through the boundless grace and generosity of our God to us. We give in thankful response to his unbounded gifts to us. The DFC purposes to humbly serve our Lord and the UPC congregation as we carefully and prayerfully administer these gifts in his name. May God be praised and may hearts turn toward him as we love our congregation and the Seattle community in tangible ways.

Wayne Einfeld
DFC Chairperson

UPC DEACON FUND COMMITTEE

Laurel Allie
Burnley Snyder
Doug Cairns
Terrance Chinn
Peter Wilson

Wayne Einfeld
Stephen Hodges
Karen Teel
Constance Hokanson
Carl Einfeld



UNIVERSITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
4540 15th Avenue NE . Seattle, WA . 98105 . upc.org