

## CBF/GA State Mission Offering FAQs

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### 1. **What is the State Mission Offering (SMO)?**

The State Mission Offering (SMO) is a separate means of funding outside of the CBF/GA operating budget. When churches or individuals give to the SMO, they are providing supplemental financial support for CBF/GA events and initiatives that promote the mission of God.

### 2. **Does CBF/GA have an annual emphasis for SMO?**

The SMO is divided between the areas of missions, congregational life, and administration. This year the emphases will continue to be leadership development, particularly our young leaders, and our neighborhood mission and outreach efforts.

### 3. **Does CBF/GA have SMO resources for churches?**

Yes. Samples of all printed resources are included in this packet and listed in the letter.

For more information on SMO and digital resources, visit our website at [www.cbfga.org](http://www.cbfga.org). The link will provide information for obtaining SMO materials listed above. Or, you may contact Renée Bennett, 478-742-1191 (choose option 1, or option 2, ext. 3) or [rbennett@cbfga.org](mailto:rbennett@cbfga.org).

### 4. **How are administrative costs included in the SMO distribution?**

The emphasis of the State Mission Offering is mission, or the mission of God. We believe that everything CBF/GA seeks to do through our churches is to promote and fulfill the mission of God in the world. Therefore, this includes our three primary areas of funding: administration, congregational life, and missions. Specifically, administrative costs include not only staff salaries and overhead, but resources such as technology and strategic planning. In short, the administrative costs are the backbone that supports our organization and thus our churches in being the presence of Christ in the world.

### 5. **How can I become involved in CBF/GA missions?**

There are several ways to become involved in CBF/GA missions. For those interested in participating actively in mission work, CBF/GA provides opportunities throughout the year for hands-on missions.

For youth, **March Mission Madness** is a mission weekend experience that provides opportunities for youth to engage in worship, fellowship, and mission work in a local community. This event occurs two weekends every March in different Georgia cities. For more information, go to [www.marchmissionmadness.org](http://www.marchmissionmadness.org) or, contact Martha Kate Hall, 478-742-1191 (choose option 2, then ext. 2) or [mkhall@cbfga.org](mailto:mkhall@cbfga.org).

At the center of the recent Discernment Task Force report was a clear call to focus on working with the CBF family of individuals and congregations in Georgia. The primary question has always been, "What can we do to enhance the work being done by the congregations that identify with CBF?" Part of the answer is the emergence of a "neighborhood identity" among our congregations. The Coordinating Council has approved the establishment of eight neighborhood groups around the state. Each neighborhood will organize itself in ways that best suit the local situation, choosing a facilitator and determining the types of ministries, programs, or fellowship events that will take place. The SMO will help support mission efforts undertaken by our neighborhoods.

As opportunities arise, CBF/GA connects individuals and churches with ways to give time and resources to disaster response. From hurricanes to tornado sites in Georgia and beyond, CBF/GA has assisted in finding ways to respond to various disasters.

For more information, contact Frank Broome, 478-742-1191 (choose option 2, then ext. 1) or [fbroome@cbfga.org](mailto:fbroome@cbfga.org).

## **6. How can I become involved in CBF/GA congregational life and events?**

CBF/GA exists to provide support to Baptist congregations in Georgia as they are the presence of Christ in their communities. One way to get involved is by participating in events sponsored by CBF/GA, such as March Mission Madness, Winter Youth Summit, Senior Celebration, Senior Adult Retreat, CBF/GA Neighborhood events, Annual General Assembly, and our Interfaith Dialogues. CBF/GA congregational life also includes ways our staff can support individual congregations. If your church has a specific educational, training, or administrative need, you may contact Martha Kate Hall, 478-742-1191 (option 2, ext. 2) or [mkhall@cbfga.org](mailto:mkhall@cbfga.org).

The event calendar included in this packet includes a list of CBF/GA events for all ages. Check our website ([www.cbfga.org](http://www.cbfga.org)) for more information on dates, locations, and registration deadlines for our events. You may also consider signing up on our website for *ReVisions*, our monthly e-newsletter, and *Visions*, our print newsletter, to receive the latest information about our events. Or, you may contact Melissa Kremer, 478-742-1191 (option 2, ext. 4), or [mkremer@cbfga.org](mailto:mkremer@cbfga.org).

## **7. Why is the SMO important?**

The SMO provides a way, outside of the regular budget, for our fellowship of congregations to emphasize the mission work we seek to accomplish in our communities. As we work together to fund the State Mission Offering, CBF/GA and our congregations can better serve each other and the world as we seek to be the presence of Christ. The SMO also helps us fulfill our vision, “Christians and churches will live out the Great Commission of Jesus Christ” and our mission, “To serve and equip churches in Georgia as they discover and follow Christ in God-inspired missions.”