MINISTERS AND MISSIONARIES BENEFIT BOARD - MMBB Report of Special Director - Noemí Núñez-Sánchez

Greetings,

The Board of Directors of the Ministers and Missionaries Benefit Board (MMBB) met twice this year on May 3-4, 2022, and November 1-2, 2022. Both meetings were hybrid meetings where vaccinated board members and staff were in person in their office at the Interchurch Center in NYC and the rest of the non-vaccinated or those who couldn't attend through Zoom.

Both meetings had the same format where different committees, staffs, and other organization representing the MMBB presented their reports.

My first meetings during these periods were with the Development Committee. Note: This committee's responsibilities include engaging in advocacy and networking; analyze and develop relationships with current and prospective major donors (both individual and corporate); devise sponsorship packages; work with staff and Board to develop this donor relationship, along with the Chief Executive Officer, meet with current and prospective major donors and funders; assure that ethical practices are in place; provide full report during meetings to the Board of Managers.

Among the topics discussed were, the giving landscape within the U.S. and within the religious sector; MMBB gift revenue for 2021; the MMBB 2022/23 Lilly matching gift appeal and fundraising strategy; and our focus on stewardship and prospecting in 2022. It was recommended that the giving should be within the American Baptist denomination. During the open discussion, we discussed ways to promote legacy giving, including required minimum distributions (RMDs) from qualified retirement plans.

I also met with the Audit committee whose primary function is to assist the Board of Managers in monitoring the integrity of MMBB. We also met with the auditors from BDO who reported their primary areas of focus in their overall audit strategy.

Other topics discussed at these meetings were the impact of pandemic on congregations (study over a period of 5 years), the Lilly Endowment initiatives: phase III Grant: Focused on assisting pastoral leaders severely affected by pandemic MMBB is planning a financial planning conference called "The MMBB RE:THINK RE: INVEST" which has been postponed for 2024.

I thank God for the Executive Officer, Louis Barbarin and his staff for the amazing job that they are doing during this difficult time and this board for the opportunity to learn more about this important organization.

Sincerely,

Noemí Núñez-Sánchez