

THE MATCHING FUNDS PROGRAM

5/1/2009– 4/30/2010

The Grand Lodge of New Hampshire sponsors a Matching Funds Program to assist Constituent Blue Lodges in becoming more visible and supportive in their communities.

(Matching Funds are for Non-Masonic entities or causes)

The procedure for applying for Matching Funds is as follows:

1. The Lodge identifies a worthy charitable cause or need within the community.
2. The Lodge raises funds through some independent effort in the community to support the cause identified. This could take the form of a fundraising breakfast, car wash, yard sale, etc.
3. The Lodge writes a request for Matching Funds to the Deputy Grand Master, Chairman of the program. The request **must** indicate how the funds were raised and must be accompanied by a check for the Lodge's share, made payable to "The New Hampshire Masonic Charitable Foundation". Also, the name of the person or organization receiving the donation must be included in the request.
4. If the request is approved, Matching Funds will be authorized up to the smaller of the requested amount and the currently available matching amount. The "matching amount" during the fiscal year ending April 30, 2010 will be \$450.00 **while the allocated funds last**.
5. A check for the combined amount (*Lodge's share plus, up to \$450.00, the Matching Funds amount*) made out to the recipient, will be sent to the Lodge for presentation.
6. The Lodge **must** make the presentation in a public (or semi-public) forum, where it will gain some local visibility.

NOTE: No payments will be made directly to the Lodge, in the Lodge's name, or in the name of anyone other than the recipient. Payments are to be made in person directly to the recipient, and if at all possible, in a public forum. **Under no circumstances are payments to be mailed to the recipients.** All requests must be received no less than thirty days prior to the anticipated presentation date or the request will be denied and the Lodge's contribution returned.

Grand Lodge Constitution

(Excerpt) Article XIII – Section 10 - page 27

"No Lodge shall appropriate or use its funds or any part thereof for any purpose other than Masonic charities, or other Masonic purposes, sponsored by Grand Lodge. However, Lodges may, by vote of the Lodge at a Stated Communication, establish special charitable funds, from fund raising activities, excess unrestricted yearly income that exceeds one hundred and ten percent (110%) of the yearly operating expenses, or income ONLY from unrestricted Charitable Trusts, for charitable purposes other than Masonic"