

**NETWORK OF RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES**  
1272 Delaware Avenue. Buffalo, NY 14209 . 716-992-4793 . [www.religiousnet.org](http://www.religiousnet.org)

June 2003

To: 2004 Riefler Fund Applicants  
From: Rev. G. Stanford Bratton D.Min.  
RE: Riefler Fund Application Requirements

Dear Riefler Fund Applicant:

We are pleased to provide you with an application form and guidelines for applying for a 2004 Riefler Fund Grant. The Riefler Enablement Fund was established in 1988 through the generous bequest of Mr. and Mrs Raymond Riefler. In each successive year the Network has been able to provide grants to Buffalo Area Congregations and ecumenical/interreligious organizations totaling between \$25,000.00 and \$45,000.00 per year. The total amount distributed each year is determined by the income from the invested principle.

In preparing for 2004 Riefler Fund Application please keep the following in mind:

1. **The deadline for receiving applications at the office of the Network of Religious Communities is 2:00 P.M. Friday August 22, 2003.** Applications received after that time and date will not be considered for grants in 2004. No exceptions will be made.
2. Applications from local congregations, groups of congregations, ecumenical and or interreligious organizations or projects sponsored by the above are encouraged. Applications from individuals and those from community groups without an official tie to a congregation or a group of congregations will not be considered.
3. Please use the official form for submitting your application. You may use a computer to generate pages 2-4, but **you must use page 1. as provided, for the cover page. You may attach up to two additional pages** (no more please) to answer questions and provide a budget. Failure to follow these instructions may disqualify your application.
4. It is important that you **answer all questions.** Providing a budget as requested in question 17. is required in all circumstances. Identifying additional resources as requested in question 14. is very important.
5. Please pay careful attention to questions 8, 9,10 and 13 since these questions have the highest value in our scoring process.

The 2004 Riefler Fund Grants will be available beginning in January 2004. Recipients of the 2004 awards will be notified in December 2003. They will receive further instructions at that time.

Your application will be read by persons like yourself who are actively involved in the life and work of a local congregations in the Buffalo Area. They read the proposals and score them using a form developed by the Network. The committee's recommendations are forwarded to the Board of Governors of the Network of Religious Communities for approval and then to the Trustees of the Riefler Estate for a legal review.