

Pooling Endorsements

I give my full support and endorsement to the Florida Mission Center pooling their congregational funds into a managed account so that additional dollars can be earned to support their mission. This idea has been implemented in other mission centers and has successfully supported and empowered worthwhile programs and ministries.

Apostle Linda L. Booth
Southern USA Mission Field

The use of “pooled investing” for jurisdictions having unexpended funds has always seemed to me to be a wise and useful stewardship practice. In many places, such funds virtually gather dust in low-interest accounts of various kinds. While quite safe, those funds are often not available to make any kind of significant contribution to the ongoing program and developmental needs of the jurisdictions having them. Pooling funds, however, offers a safe and, in the long-run, very productive way to generate income for several jurisdictions which is available for creative and positive expensing according to the desires of those participants. I am confident that the administration of the church’s pooled investment funds is skilled and trustworthy. Along with many others, I encourage their use.

Jim Cable, former Apostle
Greater Los Angeles Stake

I am pleased to have the opportunity to add my support to the concept of pooling financial resources on behalf of the ministry and mission of the Community of Christ.

My personal experience with this matter goes back several years while serving in what was then the Southeast U.S.A. Apostolic Field. In several instances when congregations joined with the region in agreeing to provide for this pooling opportunity, it enabled the church in those areas to respond in effective ways to evangelistic and community oriented programs and ministries.

The pooling of funds, that at the moment are often lying fallow, coupled with capable, accepted leadership and management provides funding for ministries of care and outreach. At the same time, it ensures the continuing availability of those congregational funds for any local needs and opportunities that may arise in the future.

Alex Kahtava, former President of the Council of Twelve

We were near bankruptcy with every dollar contributed at the local level; \$.59 went to operate the stake, and income was going down hill very fast!, and expansion and growth was zero. The Greater Los Angeles Stake (GLAS) decided to consolidate funds, unless restricted, into a program fund. We sold some church properties and added the net capital balance to the program fund. With a lot of congregational meetings with leaders and members, congregational funds were also released to the stake program fund. With this combined approach, the earnings realized from this stake program fund allowed us to completely do away with jurisdictional assessments!

When we finally had worked through the totaling pooling of resources concept with the members of the (GLAS), we presented a stake resolution that essentially did away with assessments and it was like introducing "apple pie and motherhood". The vote was almost unanimous.

With the increased flow of funds to the Stake we were able not only to hire personnel, at one point we had ten full time persons on staff, including Dave and Dustee. The programs of ministry blossomed, and at our peak we had about 35 expansion groups going, along with the 22 established congregations. The pooling concept works, if you can get the saints to pull together.

Gary Beebe, Former Stake President
Greater Los Angeles Stake