

**CODE OF REGULATIONS  
OF THE  
METROPOLITAN AREA RELIGIOUS COALITION  
OF CINCINNATI (MARCC)**

The purpose of this organization is:

- A. To bring together concerns of the faiths for the metropolitan community in such a way as to make compassion and reconciliation felt where there is common need.
- B. To work, serve and witness together by the initiation of programs and projects so that the ministry of the faiths in the metropolitan community of Cincinnati might be truly united.
- C. To encourage constructive community action and the development of a community conscience within the metropolis.
- D. To represent the concerns of the faiths in relationship to all appropriate institutions and systems.
- E. To provide educational opportunities for laity and clergy that they may be more articulate about the forces which shape urban life.
- F. To provide research and planning services.

**ARTICLE I. MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1. Any religious denomination, communion, or organization (Judicatory) which agrees with the purpose of this organization, which is recommended by the Executive Board and approved by the Delegates Council, is eligible for membership in MARCC and shall be and become a Member thereof upon fulfilling its "fair share" of the financial support of this organization.

Section 2. Any new applicant group (Judicatory) will be invited to attend the MARCC Executive Board as a regular participant and also send representatives to attend MARCC's Delegate Council for a period of 3 to 6 months. During that period each will mutually evaluate the principles and purposes of membership in MARCC. When the applicant is found to be an acceptable new judicatory by the Executive Board, the Executive Board will recommend that to the Delegates Council.

Section 3. To remain in good standing, each Member shall assume and pay an annual "fair share" of the funds necessary to support the administrative and operational expense of MARCC.

Section 4. Each member which has fulfilled the requirements of membership shall be entitled to representation at membership meetings of (but not limited to) ten (10) Delegates, and at least three (3) delegates to the Delegates Council. Member organizations shall elect or appoint their delegates in such a manner as they see fit.

**ARTICLE II. MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS**

Section 1. An Annual Meeting shall be held during the first quarter of the year for the purpose of reviewing the work of the previous year, adopting a budget, and electing new officers.

Section 2. Other meetings of the Members, one of which shall be a planning conference, may be called by the Delegates Council or Executive Board.

Section 3. Notice of such meetings shall be mailed to each Member and its delegation at least ten (10) days prior to the date of such meetings and shall state the objects thereof.

### **ARTICLE III. DELEGATES COUNCIL**

Section 1. There shall be a Delegates Council composed of at least three (3) delegates from each Member organization, such delegations to include both lay persons and clergy.

Section 2. The Delegates Council shall have authority to : implement policies established at Membership Meetings; set policy and priorities in the interim between Membership Meetings; create committees and task forces; hear reports of committees and task forces; review decisions and proposals of the Executive Board; and, take any action essential to the work and program of MARCC.

Section 3. Meetings of the Delegates Council shall be held at least once each quarter at such time and place as arranged by the Executive Board.

Section 4. Notice of such meetings shall be given to each Delegated either in writing or by telephone at least three (3) days prior to the date of such meeting.

### **ARTICLE IV. EXECUTIVE BOARD**

Section 1. The Executive Board shall consist of the elected officers and board members, together with past presidents and executive staff, ex-officio. The Executive Board shall meet in the interim between meetings of the Delegates Council, at such time and place as it shall determine or upon the call of the president.

Section 2. The Executive Board shall have the control and management of the business, funds, and property of the corporation, and may exercise all powers of the corporation, subject only to the action of the Delegates Council or of the Members in meeting assembled. It may adopt by-laws not inconsistent with these regulations; promulgate and enforce rules governing the use of the property of the corporation; fill vacancies in its membership created by death, resignation or incapacity of Members, subject to approval of replacements by the Delegates Council.

Section 3. The Executive Board shall review proposals, strategies and matters to be considered by the Delegates Council; hear progress reports by staff and suggest appropriate action on issues and projects. It shall make recommendations to the president about appointments for committees and task forces, and review any public statements made in the name of MARCC; and shall perform other such duties as required by the Delegates Council.

Section 4. The Executive Board shall employ an executive staff for the corporation and shall establish policies for conditions of such employment.

### **ARTICLE V. OFFICERS**

Section 1. At their Annual Meeting each year, the Members shall elect a president, one or more vice-presidents, secretary, treasurer, and as many Board Members as are needed to assure representation of each Member on the Executive Board. These officers shall serve for a one-year term ending with the next succeeding Annual Meeting.

Section 2. The president, vice-presidents, secretary, and treasurer shall perform the usual duties of such officers, and such other and further duties as the Delegates Council shall determine. No one may be elected to the same office for more than three (3) consecutive terms.

#### **ARTICLE VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Section 1. The Executive Director shall be responsible for the administration of the affairs of the corporation; for research and planning operations; and shall serve as a resource person for the Delegates Council, committees, and the Executive Board. As Chief Executive Officer, the Executive Director shall employ and supervise an assisting staff, subject to policies approved by the Executive Board.

#### **ARTICLE VII. ELECTIONS**

Section 1. A Nominating Committee representing each Member shall be formed prior to each Annual Meeting to present a slate of Officers and Board Members. The slate shall include a representative from each Member and shall not have a disproportionate balance of clergy, lay persons, or judicatory staff.

Section 2. Nominations may also be made from the floor at Annual Meeting

#### **ARTICLE VIII. FINANCE**

Section 1. The fiscal year shall be the calendar year.

Section 2. A budget proposal and estimated "fair shares" for each year shall be prepared by the Executive Board, such budget to reflect the established priorities and activities of MARCC and the funding capacity of the Members. The budget proposal shall be submitted to the Delegates Council for their recommendations at a meeting prior to the Annual Meeting at which the budget is to be adopted.

Section 3. No budget shall be adopted which requires or permits any Member to assume more than 30 percent (30%) of the operating expenses of MARCC in any one year. Exceptions can be made only with the consent of the Delegates Council.

#### **ARTICLE IX. QUORUM AND PROCEDURES**

Section 1. Representatives of fifty percent (50%) of the Members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Section 2. On decisions about policy, priorities, and budget, each Member delegation shall be entitled to one vote.

Section 3. MARCC will choose areas of involvement and make strategy decisions on the basis of a consensus of its Members.

Section 4. All books and records of the corporation shall be open for inspection and examination by the Delegates Council, the Members, or any committee appointed for that purpose.

#### **ARTICLE X. AMENDMENTS**

Section 1. This Code of Regulations may be amended at any Delegates Council or Membership Meeting, provided that copies of the proposed amendments be mailed to Members thirty (30) days before the meeting at which action is to be taken.

Section 2. Amendments may be initiated by the Executive Board, the Delegates Council or any Member delegation.

Section 3. Amendments to this code shall be adopted upon an affirmative vote by a majority of the Members.