



## FIREFIGHTERS HELPING FIREFIGHTERS IN NEED

The UFBA Benevolent Fund was established to assist UFBA fire brigade members and their families who are facing **serious financial hardship**. Its funds come from a levy on brigades which are members of the Association and from financial investments. So, it's really firefighters helping firefighters who are in financial hardship.

It is important to remember that the Fund is **need** driven. A situation which causes financial problems for one brigade member might not have the same effect on another. The Fund should not be thought of as an insurance policy where regular fees are paid and when an agreed-to event takes place, a claim is made.

It is also important to remember that applications cannot be made retrospectively.

The Fund is managed by a group of Trustees who are all serving or retired brigade members appointed by the UFBA. Currently, they are:

Chairman Alan Cockburn QFSM, JP	Past President of the UFBA Retired Chief Fire Officer of New Brighton Volunteer Fire Brigade
Graeme Booth MNZM	Past President of the UFBA Chief Fire Officer of Laingholm Volunteer Fire Brigade
Alan Burgess MNZM	Past President of the UFBA Chief Fire Officer of the Ashburton Volunteer Fire Brigade
Ray Topia MNZM, JP	Past President of the UFBA Retired Deputy Chief Fire Officer of the Kamo Volunteer Fire Brigade
Bryan Styles	Past President of the UFBA Chief Fire Officer of the Carterton Volunteer Fire Brigade
Bill Butzbach	Chief Executive Officer of the UFBA Chief Fire Officer of the Martinborough Volunteer Fire Brigade
	President of the UFBA

The Trustees independently assess each claim and decide if it fits the criteria and if it does, recommend how much financial support the Fund will give. A final decision is then made by the Chairman.

Applications to the Fund must be made by the Chief Fire Officer or Officer-in-Charge of the Brigade. The Fund does not accept applications from possible recipients.

There is an application form available on the UFBA website at:

[http://www.ufba.org.nz/member\\_services/benevolent\\_fund](http://www.ufba.org.nz/member_services/benevolent_fund)

While each application is treated on its merits, the circumstances the Trustees consider include:

- What has happened? (e.g., expenses associated with serious illness)
- Does the brigade member have the financial resources to cope with what has happened?
- Is there any other assistance available? (e.g., from government departments, insurance policies, savings etc)

The application should be emailed to [benevolentfund@ufba.org.nz](mailto:benevolentfund@ufba.org.nz) or posted to the UFBA Office at PO Box 56079, Tawa, Wellington 5249.

Questions regarding the Benevolent Fund can be directed to UFBA Membership Support Coordinator Jane Davie, email [jane@ufba.org.nz](mailto:jane@ufba.org.nz) or phone 04 237 2683 or 0274 428 655.

**All applications to the Fund are treated with extreme confidence.**