

SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY OF THE BAHÁ'ÍS OF RIVERSIDE COUNTY DISTRICT 4 WEST

P. O. Box 5788
La Quinta, CA 92248-5788
Telephone: 760-772-4676 — FAX: 760-772-0338

June 2017

Dear Bahá'í Friends,

This Spiritual Assembly has the honor of managing the Pat Shelton Youth Scholarship Fund.

As stated in letters from the Universal House of Justice, there is a great need to focus on "releasing and fostering capacity" of children and youth in our communities. In light of this guidance, the scope of monetary assistance from the Patrick Shelton Youth Scholarship Fund will be extended. We want to be able inspire the largest possible number of youth ages 10-25 years of age to the field of service.

This summer, as we know, has special potential to "connect the hearts to Bahá'u'lláh". Funds may be used to pay a portion of fees for Bahá'í summer school or conferences in Southern California; they may also be used to assist youth who participate in the current summer projects by attending the training days, and serving a three-week deployment in the field. In some cases, assistance may be provided to youth involved in specific, locally-designed, time-defined projects of Core Activities who need funds for such items as transportation.

So that future scholarships can be awarded and the education of our youth is encouraged and enhanced, we ask the spiritual assemblies and groups to once again include the Pat Shelton Youth Scholarship Fund in their annual budget. The fund is entirely dependent on contributions from the communities and from neighboring friends.

We also ask that spiritual assemblies encourage youth in their community to take advantage of the opportunities described above, and to make it easy for youth and their parents to access the necessary information if financial assistance is necessary. Please see the attached Guidelines and provide copies to families as needed.

Before illness caused his untimely death at age 40 in 1997, Pat Shelton was a tireless, devoted worker for the Cause, and was especially devoted to Bahá'í youth. The aim of the Scholarship Fund is to continue, in his memory, the work of supporting our youth and preparing them for a life of service to Bahá'u'lláh. Over the years many youth have been supported and inspired in Pat's name, with the assistance of the Fund.

Please make your checks payable to the Bahá'ís of RCD 4 West and earmark to the: Pat Shelton Youth Scholarship Fund". (See attached Guidelines). We look forward to your support of the Scholarship Fund and your assistance in promoting youth attendance at Bahá'í schools.

Warmest Bahá'í greetings,

The Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of Riverside County District 4 West