

RESOLUTION NO. 46

**COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT: HEALTH & SAFETY
RE: FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR IAFF MEMBERS EX-
PENSES FOR EXCELLENCE CENTER**

1 WHEREAS, IAFF brothers and sisters may be
2 struggling with post-traumatic stress along with co-
3 occurring depression, anxiety or substance abuse
4 disorders; and

5 WHEREAS, we may need treatment from
6 professionals who understand the fire service culture
7 and the unique pressures of our job; and

8 WHEREAS, the Center of Excellence connects
9 us to best-practice, evidence based therapies
10 delivered by clinicians who understand the types of
11 trauma we experience on a day-to-day basis; and

12 WHEREAS, the mission statement for the
13 Center of Excellence is to offer treatment for
14 successful recovery from post-traumatic stress and
15 co-occurring addictions and help IAFF members
16 return to the job; and

17 WHEREAS, the financial costs of transportation
18 for members to get to the Center of Excellence can
19 be costly, and not covered by health insurance; and

20 WHEREAS, due to ever changing coverage
21 costs for such treatment, changed and drastically
22 varying costs for locals, causing deductibles and
23 copays to soar; and

24 WHEREAS, these diseases that may have likely
25 been attributed to the performance of our duties and
26 our employers may not cover the expenses for care;
27 and

28 WHEREAS, this type of skilled care may cause
29 severe financial distress for our families and, due to
30 these diagnoses, our finances may be distressed as
31 result of these ailments; therefore be it

32 RESOLVED, The delegates assembled at the
33 2018 54th Biennial Convention vote for a 15-cent per
34 capita increase to be used as a grant, called the
35 "Excellence Assistance Grant," for locals to assist
36 members with travel costs to get to the Center of
37 Excellence; and be it further

38 RESOLVED, That this grant also allow monies
39 to cover up to a max of \$1,500 from this fund for
40 coverage of deductible/co-pays not covered by
41 members health insurance; and be it further

42 RESOLVED, The funds are to be distributed by
43 the General President and the Executive Board after
44 application for approval on an approved form; and be
45 it further

46 RESOLVED, That this grant will be reevaluated
47 at the 2020 Biennial Convention.

Submitted by: Local 421, Lansing Area Fire Fighters

Cost Estimate: 15 cents

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

CONVENTION ACTION: