

ABCUSA MATTHEW 25 GRANT APPLICATION



A generous donor has given a sum of money through American Baptist Churches USA to be used for programs that address “housing, feeding, education and health with regard to the less fortunate.” A panel will select recipients for grants of up to \$5,000 largely based on the degree to which the funds will be used to *directly assist* persons described above. The applying ministry must be directly affiliated with American Baptist Churches USA to be eligible to submit an application. Only one application per church or region will be considered within a 24-month period. Grant funds may not be used to fund staff positions, rainy day fund, church benevolent fund, or for capital improvements to facilities. Grant awards will be sent to the ABC church or Region that is applying for the grant; checks will not be made payable to an individual or ministry.

Tab through the document to fill in all the fields below.

1. Applicant Information

Name of Church or Region: First Baptist Church, Lawrence, KS

Mailing Address: 1330 Kasold Drive, Lawrence, KS 66049

Phone: 785-843-0020

Federal Tax ID#: 48-0581975

Region: Central (ABCCR)

Contact person (person completing this form): Cheryl Harader

Email: cheryl@firstbaptistlawrence.com

Affiliation with American Baptist Churches USA:

☒ Church ☐ Region ☐ Other, please explain

Does your church contribute to United Mission? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Have you previously been awarded an ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If so, have you submitted your report on the use of the funds? ☐ Yes ☐ No

2. What ministry or group will use these funds?

First Baptist Church of Lawrence, KS will administer funds to screened individuals and area organizations including but not limited to Family Promise of Lawrence, Willow Domestic Violence Center, The Shelter, Inc., Sheriff's Reentry Program, Ballard Community Services, and Sun Cedar.

If this application is being submitted on behalf of another organization or ministry, you agree to be the fiscal agent for any grant funds awarded. (please initial) CGH

3. Specifically, how do you plan to use the requested funds?

Please include a very brief and specific statement on how the money will be spent. For example: to purchase school supplies for 100 elementary school children; to provide summer camp scholarships for 10 children from low-income families; purchase diapers and wipes to single mothers. You are encouraged to attach a longer description (no more than one page) of the ministry or project.

We will use these funds to provide for the transportation needs of the homeless, people in crisis, and people recently released from prison who are re-entering society. In a 2-year period, we estimate that we could help 200 families/individuals.

4. How will the funds assist individuals battling poverty and its effects? What impact do you hope to make on the target group or community?

Lack of reliable transportation is a very common obstacle for people in poverty and others who are trying to improve their situation. People need gas for their cars, or a functioning vehicle in general, to get to job interviews, but also they need a job to buy the gas and/or to afford car repairs. Kids need transportation to school. People of all ages need transportation to the doctor or for other medical needs. We hope to help erase this obstacle by providing funds at the point when funds are needed.

5. Total cost of the project: \$5,000 over 2 years.
6. Amount being requested from the ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant: \$5,000
7. List other funding source(s): Some of the organizations we plan to assist have limited and inadequate funding for transportation needs, and we are hoping to supplement this to close the gap between the need and the available funds. We hope this grant will serve as the beginning of a fund that we can recharge and sustain beyond the two years to continue meeting these needs.
8. Please submit along with your application a copy of:
 - Your mission statement.
 - A financial statement FOR THIS MINISTRY. This can be a budget or projected budget, and should not exceed 2 pages. Church budgets are not acceptable.

By submitting this application on behalf of (church/region/organization name)First Baptist Church, Lawrence, KS, I certify that all the information submitted with this application is true and correct. We agree to use and/or disburse any grant funds awarded for the sole purpose as described within this application. We will supply a 1-page report on the use of the funds and a photo/photos within six months of receipt of the grant.

Application submitted by (name of person): Cheryl Harader (your name typed here is your electronic signature)

Date: 09/01/2016

Please note:

- Incomplete applications will not be considered.
- Recipients agree to share their stories via the ABCUSA website.
- Application deadline September 1. Grants will be distributed no later than October 15.
- Only electronic submissions of completed applications and supporting documents will be accepted. Completed applications should be sent via email to Tina.Turner@abc-usa.org.
- Please review the instructions that follow and initial at the bottom to indicate you have read this information.

Instructions and information for completing the ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant application

1. General information

Applicants must be a recognized ABC church, Region office or organization directly affiliated with an ABC organization such as ABCUSA, ABHMS and IM.

An ABC church or region may submit an application for a ministry they are supporting. If a grant is awarded, the church or region assumes fiscal responsibility for the use of these funds.

Checks will be made payable to the ABC church, region or affiliated organization. Checks will not be made to an individual or ministry.

3. Specifically, how do you plan to use the requested funds?

Briefly describe what will be purchased with the grant funds if awarded. Be specific with the expected use of these funds. This should be a very short and specific statement on where the money will be spent and not include a narrative of the ministry project.

You are encouraged to provide a longer description of the ministry but this additional information must be limited to no more than one page in length.

Please note that grant funds may not be used to fund staff positions and salaries, for capital improvements to church facilities, or to maintain a "Rainy Day fund," or church benevolent fund.

4. How will the funds assist individuals battling poverty and its effects?

Describe how the Matthew 25 grant funds will benefit those less fortunate. What effect and impact do you hope to have on individuals battling poverty or the community you are hoping to serve?

5. Total cost of the project

List the total amount of this project or ministry need.

6. Amount being requested from the ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant.

One application per church or region will be considered per 24 month period. The maximum amount awarded is \$5,000. If you have previously been a Matthew 25 grant recipient, you must have submitted a follow-up report in order to be eligible to reapply.

7. Your other funding source(s).

List all other sources providing funding for this ministry.

8. Please submit with your application a copy of:

- Your mission statement

Include as an attachment a copy of the church or ministry's mission statement.

- A financial statement for this ministry

This budget or projected budget must include specific expenses and income for the ministry applying for the Matthew 25 grant funding. Church budgets are not acceptable.

Other information and requirements

By submitting an application,

- You certify that all information submitted is true and correct;
- You agree to use and/or disburse any awarded grant funds for the sole purpose as described within this application;
- You agree to supply a one page report on the use of funds and a photo/photos within six months of receipt of the grant;
- You give ABCUSA permission to share your story via the ABCUSA website or newsletter;
- You give ABCUSA permission to use the photograph(s) submitted for printing and/or posting.

I have reviewed the instructions provided. (initial here) CGH

Your typed name and initials are your electronic signatures on this document.

First Baptist Church of Lawrence, KS

Project Description: Transportation Assistance

Lack of reliable transportation is a very common obstacle for people in poverty and others who are trying to improve their situation. People need bicycles or gas for their cars—or functioning vehicles in general—to get to job interviews, but conversely, they need jobs to buy the bicycles or gas and to afford repairs. Kids need transportation to school. People of all ages need transportation to the doctor or for other medical needs. Although some of the organizations we plan to assist do have funding of their own for transportation needs of the people they serve, the funding is limited and inadequate. We are hoping to use the Matthew 25 Grant to supplement this to close the gap between the need and the available funds.

Organizations We Plan To Assist

Family Promise of Lawrence is the organization with which we presently have the strongest ties, and we're most familiar with their needs. Their mission is "to transform the lives of homeless children and their families by providing safe shelter, food, counseling, and training in partnership with local communities of faith through hospitality and daily living support in a compassionate setting. The program is designed to address the needs of families and equip them to move into permanent housing as quickly as possible." Demographically, all families served by Family Promise are currently or have recently been in a situation of homelessness. Historically, roughly 50% of their guests are under the age of 5. Helping their guests find employment is a high priority: 93% of guests, year-to-date, are employed within 30 days of entering the program. Reliable transportation, including bus passes, car maintenance, and car repairs (the need for which are all carefully screened by Family Promise staff) are a huge part of equipping families to be successful in the Family Promise program and to acquire and sustain their own permanent housing.

Once we became aware of this need through Family Promise, we began to question what other Lawrence area organizations might be struggling to provide for the transportation needs of the people they serve. Other organizations we've reached out to and will make the grant funds available to include:

Willow Domestic Violence Center: They work to restore "the health and safety of people who have experienced domestic violence or human trafficking by providing safety, education, and advocacy...." They provide bus passes for the people they serve.

Ballard Community Services: "A non-profit institution that provides affordable, high-quality early education and essential life assistance for individuals and families in need." They say that "Transportation is one of the largest needs that we come across that we are unable to help with." They are also an umbrella organization that includes **Sun Cedar**, a non-profit manufacturing organization that offers meaningful paid employment for at-risk people—the homeless, felons, recovering addicts, etc.—empowering them with a sense of purpose and restoring their dignity

The Shelter, Inc.: They give out bus passes and gas vouchers to help at-risk children. For example, The Shelter, Inc. assists if a child needs to go for medical help, or if a student needs a ride to school.

The Sheriff's Reentry Program: Helps people who have been incarcerated successfully re-enter the community as accountable, contributing, self-sufficient and law-abiding citizens.

We sincerely appreciate your consideration of this proposal. We believe it will greatly improve the chances of those struggling to get out of poverty and to reenter the community as contributing members of society.

First Baptist Church of Lawrence, KS

Mission Statement

Our mission statement at FBC is simple: “To love God, love others as self, and serve the world.”

As we work together to accomplish that mission, we find ourselves practicing four primary tasks:

We welcome. Welcome is the foundation of who we are as church. We welcome all who enter our doors as family. We welcome the presence of God’s Spirit working through our worship, work and wonder. When you come to First Baptist, our deepest hope and joy is that you will enter as guests, but leave as members of our family—God’s family.

We worship. Our worship is primarily a response to God’s grace and faithfulness. Our worship reminds us of the profound need for Sabbath from our daily routines. We listen for God’s spirit together as we sing, pray, and learn together. We understand that our worship does not end at noon on Sunday, but extends to all we do as we live a life seeking to follow Christ and live in God’s Spirit.

We work. When we talk of work, we mean many things. We are working together as church to be the presence of Christ in our world. We believe it takes hard work and effort to be church: to be in relationship with one another and seek God’s will together. Part of our response is to do God’s work—by taking care of our building, by serving our local community and giving and serving to missions projects around the United States and the world. We commit ourselves to the difficult but life-giving work of being and doing Life Together.

We wonder. Feeling wonder at God’s grace and faithfulness marks all we do, in our welcome, worship and work. We embrace the mystery of God’s work in our world and throughout history. We gather together to wonder together about the questions of our faith. At First Baptist, we welcome questions and uncertainties, understanding that often faith rests in discovering further questions than finding concrete answers. We invite the myriad ways that God is at work in each of us—through our creativity, intellect, and relationships.

First Baptist Church of Lawrence, KS
Project Budget: Transportation Assistance

Family Promise: \$1,000
Willow Domestic Violence Center: \$715
Ballard Community Services: \$1000
The Shelter, Inc.: \$715
Sheriff's Reentry Program: \$710
Other Organizations and Individuals: \$860
Total: \$5,000

These funds will be distributed by First Baptist Church of Lawrence. These figures are estimates of what we plan to give various non-profit organizations.