

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

Mailing Address: 337 Piper Road, West Springfield, MA 01089

Phone: 413-737-3753

Federal Tax ID#: 04-6059619

Region: Massachusetts-Pioneer Valley

Contact person (person completing this form): Rev. Robert P. Smith

Email: rspttherev@comcast.net or fbcws1@gmail.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?

The GenNxt Outreach Ministry to high school youth (see attached sheet for more details)

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) N/A

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.

****These funds will be used to provide food, program materials, an opportunity to attend a contemporary Christian concert, participate in a weekend retreat experience, assist with the cost to rent a neutral space location, etc. (See attached sheets specific information.)**

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?

****Many of the high school youth, who attend GenNxt, come from lower economic situations: 3 are homeless at times; 1 is in foster care; 2 are adopted; 3 live with a grandparent(s); others are from single parent or blended family situations. Each week we provide pizza, chips, soda/water, snacks, and dessert. Some of the youth come directly to the GenNxt gathering from after school programs or sports, so having pizza, etc. is very important. (It should be noted that most of the youth see themselves as misfits [their words not mine], because they have trouble fitting in at school.)**

5. Total cost of the project: \$15,000.00
6. Amount being requested from the ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant: \$5,000.00
7. List other funding source(s): \$ 3,000 John Ashley Fund, \$1,000 Church's Mission Budget, \$1,000 Individual Gifts, \$3,000 5 Mile Fund Raising Walk
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, 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): Rev. Robert P. Smith (your name typed here is your electronic signature)

Date: 08/31/2016

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) rps

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

The GenNxt Ministry

The GenNxt ministry began 8 years ago. With the church being adjacent to the high school, we believed that it was important to reach out to our neighbor, West Springfield High School. (Prior to this we offered a free weekly breakfast, as a way of having contact with teens. After 17 years, we stopped this program, because the school began to serve a daily breakfast.)

Over the years, we have tried a variety of things from monthly activities to weekly gatherings, which we presently do. We also hired a part-time youth outreach worker. However, because we are a small congregation, we had to go back to using volunteers and cut back on programs. We also moved the gathering from the West Springfield Teen Center, which is on property that we donated to the town, to our church. As the group grows, we would like to go back to the Teen Center location, as a neutral site to meet with the youth.

I have been associated with the school for 30 years. I have served on various committees and support groups, including the high school council, principal support group, dropout prevention committee, and organizing an annual Baccalaureate service for graduating seniors, which is held in the high school. I am also able to meet with students during the lunch periods, whenever my schedule allows me to.

With the support of a grant from Matthew 25, we will be able to enhance what we are doing and reach out to more high school youth. We are asking you to invest in an exciting ministry that has paid dividends through its impact on the lives of non-church youth. The GenNxt ministry is feeding both the body and soul of today's youth.

I greatly appreciate your consideration of this grant request.

Below is our mission statement and a proposed budget for 2017. All funds will be use directly for the benefit of this ministry.

Mission Statement

Our mission is to love youth, model Jesus, build relationships, and change lives.

WE BELIEVE that God has called us to an outreach ministry that will impact the lives of high school youth of our community through demonstrating Jesus' unconditional love for them.

WE BELIEVE this should be done in a loving, caring environment where young people can experience Jesus' love for them.

WE BELIEVE this will be accomplished through building relationships with teens.

WE BELIEVE that by example; through the power of prayer; and sharing God's word ultimately lives will be changed.

WE BELIEVE this can only be done, by relying on God's power and the work of the Holy Spirit.

Proposed Budget - 2017

Expenses:

Food	\$ 3,500
Rental Cost	\$ 6,000
Christian Concert	\$ 1,000
Weekend Retreat	\$ 2,000
Resource Materials (including Bibles)	\$ 1,000
Entertainment Expenses (going to a movie, play miniature golf, ice cream treat, etc.)	\$ 1,000
Miscellaneous Expenses	\$ 500

<u>Total</u>	<u>\$15,000</u>
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