

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 in poverty. Ministries must be in relationship with American Baptist Churches USA to be eligible to apply, and only one application per church or ministry will be considered per year. Grant funds may not be used to fund staff positions.

1. General Information:

Organization Name: Bridgeport Pardons Assistance Project (an outreach mission of the Prison Ministries of the First Baptist Church of Bridgeport Connecticut)

Affiliation with ABCUSA: Member Church

Address: 126 Washington Avenue, Bridgeport, Connecticut 06604

Phone (203) 335-0234 Contact Phone: (203) 339-5887

Federal Tax ID# [To Follow under separate cover by church administrator]

Contact person: Rev. Jeff Grant, JD, M Div email: jgrant3074@icloud.com

2. Please submit with your application a copy of:

- Your mission statement. See attached.
- 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. See attached.

3. How do you plan to use the requested funds? How will the funds specifically assist individuals battling poverty and its effects? (Please submit on separate sheet. Maximum of one page.) See attached.

4. Total cost of the project: FY2013: \$13,000. FY2014: \$35,000.

5. Amount being requested from the ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant: \$5000.00

6. Your other funding source(s): See attached budget. Church outreach committees, individual donors.

I certify that all the information submitted with this application is true and correct, and that we will use any granted funds as described. We will supply a 1-page report on the use of the funds and a photo within six months of receipt of the grant.

(Signed) Rev. Jeff Grant (Mark/Signature) Date August 29, 2013

Printed Name/Title: Rev. Jeff Grant, JD, M Div, Assoc. Minister/ Director of Prison Ministries

Please note:

- Incomplete applications will not be considered.
- Recipients agree to share their stories via the ABCUSA website.
- Application deadline is March 1 for grants distributed on April 15; Sept. 1 for grants distributed on Oct. 15



- Completed applications should be sent via email to beth.fogg@abc-usa.org. Only electronic submissions will be accepted.

Bridgeport Pardons Assistance Project
Ending Poverty Through The Culture Of Pardons

To: American Baptist Churches USA, Matthew 25 Grant, Attn: Beth Fogg
From: Rev. Jeff Grant, JD, M Div, Assoc. Minister/ Director of Prison Ministries
First Baptist Church of Bridgeport Connecticut
Date: Aug. 28, 2013
Re: Matt 25 Grant Application for: Bridgeport Pardons Assistance Project

1. **Mission/Abstract.** The Mission of the Bridgeport Pardons Assistance Project (BPAP)¹ is to combat poverty, from the first day of an ex-offender's release from prison, through a *Culture of Pardons*: public service, volunteerism, goodness, dedication, forgiveness, grace, discipline, faith, and family – these are kinds of things an ex-offender needs to obtain a Pardon. Herein is an application for a \$5000 grant to cover direct stipends to clients.
2. **Introduction.** We are combating poverty in that we have opened the first pardons assistance office to cover all of Fairfield County (bpapct.org). The BPAP is important for the Fairfield County reentry community because it marks real on-the-ground change borrowed from enlightened criminal justice theory espoused at the State of Connecticut Department of Corrections and by the State of Connecticut Board of Pardons and Paroles (with which dept. we are working closely). Of course, not every ex-offender and family that applies for a Pardon will be granted one - but great things can and will happen for all who engage the process. The point is create and engender a *Culture of Pardons* - the more ex-offenders who are granted pardons, the more we will combat lives of poverty for all ex-offenders and their families.
3. **Statement of Need.** In this application, we request \$5000 for direct stipends to BPAP clients – these stipends will be utilized for pardons process readiness such as obtaining records, references, transportation, appropriate clothing, employment/career readiness, and related functions in the discretion of the trained BPAP volunteer, each stipend to be approved by the BPAP Director.
4. **Objectives.** The BPAP's objective is to bring professionalism and respect to a process at a time when our clients' have already been through the most difficult and dehumanizing periods of their lives. Our volunteers have been trained at the State of Connecticut Board of Pardons & Paroles. We have a consultant who has a Director-level position with a sister agency that has decade-long pardons center pedigree and experience. We seek funding to ensure that each and every client relationship, and its attendant application, will reflect pride and honor of a client and family that has turned its life around and is now striving for its highest, best usefulness to God and community.
5. **Evaluations.** We will have a thorough orientation, training and evaluation program for staff, clients and application process, set up, operationalized and assisted by a sister agency that has decade-long pardons center experience.
6. **Future Funding.** We expect that the majority of future funding will come from affluent Fairfield County church outreach committees and similar faith-based sources. We have had significant contact with these committees and are optimistic that we fit their missions.
7. **Budget.** Submitted herewith. Please note its simplicity – this is not a complex ministry.
8. **Congregational Hospitality.** The BPAP is part of a larger mission at the First Baptist Church of Bridgeport to welcome and offer a home to the reentry and recovery communities. We recognize it might be difficult to imagine in some churches - not in ours! This plan has fully approved by both Senior Pastor Hopeton Scott and the full Congregation of The First Baptist Church of Bridgeport.
9. **For More Information.** Rev. Jeff Grant, JD, M Div, Assoc. Minister / Director of Prison Ministries, 126 Washington Ave, Bridgeport, CT 06604, jgrant3074@icloud.com, (203) 339-5887

¹ The BPAP is an outreach mission of the Prison Ministries of the First Baptist Church of Bridgeport (an ABCUSA member).

Bridgeport Assistance Projected Budget FY 2013, FY 2014

Bridgeport Pardons Assistance Project Budget FY 2013, 2014
Organization Summary
Version 1.0

	FY 2013 Actual to date 6 Months	FY 2013 Projected End of Year	FY 2013 Budget Annual	Proposed FY 2014 Budget
Revenue				
Sales	-	-	-	-
Fee for service	-	-	-	-
Contracts	-	-	-	-
Individuals	-	3,000	3,000	2,000
Board	-	-	-	-
Corporate	-	-	-	3,000
Foundation/Faith-Based	-	10,000	10,000	30,000
Public Agency	-	-	-	-
Fundraisers and events	-	-	-	-
Endowment	-	-	-	-
Interest income	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-
Total cash revenue	\$ -	\$ 13,000	\$ 13,000	\$ 35,000
Total in-kind revenue	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Revenue	\$ -	\$ 13,000	\$ 13,000	\$ 35,000
Expenses				
Staff salary and benefits	-	-	-	-
Occupancy (rent and utilities)	-	-	-	-
Insurance	-	-	-	-
Legal, accounting	-	-	-	-
Equipment	-	-	-	-
Supplies	-	1,200	1,200	1,200
Printing and copying	-	1,200	1,200	2,400
Telecommunications	-	1,200	1,200	1,200
Travel and meetings	-	2,400	2,400	4,800
Marketing and advertising	-	-	-	2,400
Staff training/development	-	-	-	-
Volunteer Stipends	-	2,000	2,000	10,000
Stipends to Clients	-	5,000	5,000	10,000
Other	-	-	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-
Subtotal cash expenses	\$ -	\$ 13,000	\$ 13,000	
Subtotal in-kind expenses	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Expenses	\$ -	\$ 13,000	\$ 13,000	\$ -
Revenue over Expenses	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 35,000

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