

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 _____ Chin Evangelical Baptist Church _____
Affiliation with ABCUSA _____ Member, American Baptist Churches/USA 2013 _____
Address _____ 3520 Webster St. #10 _____
_____ Omaha, NE 68131 _____
Phone _____ (402) 671-4657 _____ Federal Tax ID# _____ 80-0866784/3125 _____
Contact person _____ John Tluang _____ email _____ vannuntluang@gmail.com _____

2. Please submit 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.

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.)

4. Total cost of the project _____ \$4,900 _____

5. Amount being requested from the ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant _____ \$4,900 _____

6. Your other funding source(s) _____ Savings from church members. _____

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) _____ Date _____ 8/30/13 _____

Printed Name/Title _____ John Tluang/Pastor _____

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.



Mission of Chin Evangelical Baptist Church, Omaha, NE

Purpose and objective of the church

- Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth?
- *1 Tim.2:4.*
- Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. *Mark 16:15-16; Acts 1:8*
- Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: *Mat. 28:19*
- There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. *Gal. 3:28*
- One Lord, one faith, one baptism, *Eph.4:5*
- We must love one another, help each others, as like family.

The church committee members

- (1) Sui LingChairman
Tuan Bik.....Vice Chairman
- (2) Ral Bawi Lian..... Secretary
Khen Cung..... Joint Secretary
- (3) Lian Kio..... Treasurer
Za Hup..... Assistance Treasurer
- (4) Hman Bawi.....Auditor
Ding lang..... Assistance Auditor
- (5) Hoi Cer..... Women Department Leader
- (6) Sui Za Len..... Youth Leader
- (7) Saw Van Mawi..... Sunday school Leader
- (8) Pen Iang Hnem..... Sunday school teacher

The Chin people have fled their country of Burma because of political, racial and religious persecution, and they now face enormous challenges in adapting to our culture. Through relationships and service projects, the [Chin Refugee Ministry](#) connects our church to our Chin brothers and sisters to meet their practical and spiritual needs.

The story of redemption is the story of a just and loving God calling lost and rebellious creatures back to Himself. He has been [writing](#) this grand and glorious narrative of His goodness and grace since before time began. We urge you to explore this story further.

In the beginning, God created this world good and peaceful and offered us the opportunity of unbroken fellowship with Himself – for His glory. However, as Genesis 3 tells us, things went wrong. Through one man's disobedience, we fell from this joyful state of fellowship. Sin entered our hearts, and the world became twisted and fractured. The harmony and peace that creation once enjoyed were damaged by sin and broken in disrepair.

Since that time, God has patiently and purposefully continued the story of redemption. God sent His only Son, Jesus, Who came and lived a perfect, sinless life and offered Himself as a sacrifice for our sin on the cross.

Jesus endured God's wrath on behalf of sin. It was a dark and horrendous moment of suffering and death, yet peace, beauty and hope burst forth as Christ rose three days later from the grave. That which was broken God restored through his Son.

Through Christ, we are offered restoration and reconciliation. God takes what is broken and makes it new. He invites His children into relationship with Himself and into the newness of life found in Christ.

What God starts, He will bring to completion, and we pray that you would be woven into the narrative. If you feel Christ inviting you into this story – into restored relationship with Him – turn to Him in repentance. Put your trust in Him and the work He accomplished on the cross to redeem and save you.

The ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant Ministry

Refugees are people who have left their country due to political persecution. It is an ancient story of persecution. Fortunately the United States has welcomed our people and our culture. We are very grateful to the early missionaries Rev. Adoniram Judson and Ann Judson to Burma on July 13, 1813 who brought the word of the Lord to our people. American Baptist Missionaries Rev. Arthur Carson and Laura Carson came to the Chin people on March 15, 1899. The Chin people have fled their country of Burma because of political, racial and religious persecution, and they now face enormous challenges in adapting to US culture. Through relationships and service projects, the Chin Refugee Ministry connects our church to our Chin brothers and sisters to meet their practical and spiritual needs.

Over half of our church members (62%) are living in poverty according to the 2013 Federal Poverty Guidelines. They struggle to provide for their families and any unforeseen event could destroy their ability to pay for their basic needs of rent, food, transportation to/from work and medical care. The remaining church members are living within 200% of the Federal Poverty Level Guidelines. In essence, the church members are what is called “the working poor”.

We would like provide assistance to our Chin brothers and sisters through creating Individual Development Accounts (IDA) that will enable the church members to save for a purchase that will help lift them out of poverty and then with ABCUSA Matthew 25 grant funds we will match their savings. Through this extension of our ministry we will be able to assist church members with saving for their needs of housing, education, and other identified needs which will help lift them out of poverty and that otherwise they will not be able to afford.

We are a small ministry and we have limited staff time, but volunteers will help to oversee the project. We also wish to encourage good savings habits among members because they are faced with financial difficulties in sustaining their families due to medical bills, automobile repair, and providing clothing for their children.

This ministry will assist with meeting their practical needs by matching their savings up to \$350 per family for a total of \$700 that they may use for a self-identified need which will help lift them out of poverty. For example, they may choose to apply the funds towards a down payment on a home, towards education, towards the down payment on a vehicle to go to/from work or a similarly identified need that they would have difficulty saving for on their own. They will be able to apply for the IDA program and then we will help them create a savings plan where they will save each month. When they reach their savings goal, we will verify this first and then match their savings. We will also obtain verification that the funds were used towards their goal.

Financial Statement for ABCUSA Matthew 25 Ministry

Number of Families to Participate: 14

- We are a small ministry of Chin refugee families and each family has a wife and a husband and between 3-6 children

Amount Saved by Each Family: \$350.00

- A savings plan will be developed for each participant to save each month between \$20-\$50 each month. This is to encourage the development of savings habits, which the members may continue after the project is complete. The habit of savings will help them to prepare for life's unexpected expenses so that the family can become more secure and lift out of poverty.

14 Families x \$350 saved per family = \$4,900 total project budget.

Amount Requested: \$4,900