ABCUSA MATTHEW 25 GRANT APPLICATION

1. General Information:
   Organization Name_____Refugee Immigration Ministry_____
   Affiliation with ABCUSA (Check made payable to)_____First Baptist Church, Belmont
   Mailing Address__129 Lexington St., Belmont, MA 02478_____
   Phone:_____RIM's Phone is: 781-322-1011 First Baptist is :617-484-1310 (Pastor is Ruth Harvey)_____
   Federal Tax ID# _____04-3200436_____
   Contact Person: Ruth H. Bersin_____e-mail: ruth.rim@verizon.net_____

2. Please submit with your application a copy of Mission Statement: "Building Community with Uprooted People to Serve the Common Good."

   Financial statement for this Ministry: See Attached_____

3. How do you plan to use the requested funds?   See Attached_____

4. Total cost of the project:_____$25,000_____

5. Amount being requested from the ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant_____$5,000_____

6. Your other funding sources: _____Events, individual and congregational donations. We also have applied for other funding from several foundations._____
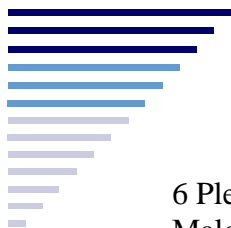
I certify that all the information submitted with this application is true and correct, and that we will use any granted funds as described. We will supply a 1-page report on the use of the funds and a phot within six months of receipt of the grant.

Signed: *Ruth H. Bersin*   Date: September 1, 2015

Printed Name/Title:___The Rev. Ruth H. Bersin, Ph.D., Executive Director_____

Thank you for considering this project and for your past support!

Refugee **I**mmigration **M**inistry

"Building Community with Uprooted People to Serve the Common Good"

6 Pleasant Street, Suite 612
Malden, MA 02148

Phone 781-322-1011
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Website: www.r-i-m.net

To: ABCUSA Matthew 25

Report on Grant from 2014

The funds which were granted to Refugee Immigration Ministry for this year have been very important, as has the association with ABCUSA.

During the past year, the focus for RIM has changed to supporting Asylum Seekers. The Clusters have been very important in providing community-based support to individuals and families who have recently arrived. They have been through unspeakable trauma and need the support of their new community to survive. As asylum seekers, they receive no support and cannot work. There is also no support to assist them with initial resettlement. This has been a big change for Clusters. Thus, the decision was made to work with the current Clusters to help them build a foundation of support to address these issues. This has included:

- Recruiting new volunteers from participating congregations.
- Recruiting new congregations to participate in the Cluster
- Supporting new Cluster fund raising efforts.
- Working with Host Homes for housing

The work to expand each Cluster is described as follows:
- Cambridge: recruiting new congregations and utilizing a host home. (ABC pastor and her husband)
- Chelmsford: utilizing a host home (Lutheran Pastor and his wife)
- Metro-North: Broadening the Annual Walk which they have expanded to include all Clusters. (See attached picture)
- Metro West: Hosting a family at the local Sikh Gudwara.
- North Shore: Utilizing a Host Home. (Professor from Gordon College and his wife)

RIM is planning to build a wider use of Host Homes and has developed a training manual and a process for Criminal Background Checks will be in place this fall.

The funds which RIM received have been used as follows:

Recruit and support host homes	$200
Reaching out to new congregations	$500
Publicity and materials for Walk	$200
Building an Internship Program	$100

The match grant for Clusters will be utilized in November. The reason we have not done that

sooner is fitting it into the schedule for maximum results:

January 2014	Match Grant for Clusters was offered within that month by a local foundation
February	We were snowed in
March	Cluster's Annual Flower Sale
May	RIM's Annual International Dinner
June	The Walk for Refugees
July-Aug	Not a good time for fund raising in this area.
September	Bulb Sale for Clusters
October	RIM's Annual International Dinner
November	Cluster Match Grant from ABC Matthew 25 Grant
December	RIM's End of year campaign

The Cluster Match Grant in November will be offered to new Clusters and to current Clusters.

Thank you for making this possible. The Match Grant will be a big bonus for Clusters and your support is very important as we continue to engage congregations in providing community-based support. The results of this support have been very positive as clients have adapted to the new country, reclaimed their professional skills and certifications and are enriching the communities where they have tended to continue living.

Success stories include:
Michael, who was an international marketing manager in Congo is now a top salesman for a local car dealership.
John, who was a trauma surgeon in Iraq, has passed his medical boards and is working in a local hospital.
Marvin, who was a pharmacist in Congo is now working with a pharmaceutical company in MA.
Ben is working in a translation company and got the outstanding employee award.
Several women have become Nurses.
One former client has become a trauma therapist.

I am including pictures from the Walk for Refugees.
Thank you for your support which allows us to work with these very deserving, often neglected people.

Sincerely,

The Rev. Ruth H. Bersin, Ph.D., CFRE
Executive Director

Refugee Immigration Ministry is a 501-c-3 (04-3200436) which was founded in 1986 to provide visitation within the detention system. Since that time RIM has built a strong, successful 20 hour training program for volunteers seeking to visit immigrant detainees. This program has been used across the country (Arizona, Florida, New York, and in the Boston area) and is recommended by the Immigration Customs Enforcement for other organizations wanting to set up a visitation program. RIM has recently expanded to Eastern New Hampshire where a new program was set up following the RIM training.

RIM's mission is: "Building Community with Uprooted People to Serve the Common Good." All programs are community-based in order to facilitate integration of clients into their local communities. Professional Case Managers guide the work of volunteers to assure that the goal for each client is self-sufficiency and that all services are geared to the realization of that goal.

Other programs which RIM is conducting include a community-based resettlement program for asylum seekers who are released into the community by ICE. Clusters, which are made up of volunteers from various faith groups, collaborate to offer housing, acculturation, transportation and other support until the asylum seeker can receive work authorization. This program also engages people from various faith groups in a common mission and helps build bridges between the groups within the community.

The third program which RIM is conducting is an ESOL program which is based upon Direct Method teaching, which does not require translation and can lead the student into thinking in English from the first lesson. The Apple System is flexible and students can learn in weekly sessions, bi-weekly, or in intensive lessons which are offered 6 hours per day for 10 days. This effort can make a person functional within 60 lessons or less. A study done by The Vera Institute of Justice points to a serious issues contributing to poverty and disruption in our communities:

"Without a parent's active participation in a juvenile delinquency case, officials often believe they have little choice but to prosecute and detain a juvenile, both to address the child's best interests and to preserve public safety. With a growing number of immigrants residing in the United States and a growing number of immigrant youth entering the juvenile justice system, there is an acute need to better understand the relationship between parents' ability to speak English and their ability to participate in the juvenile justice process on behalf of their child. " (http://www.vera.org/pubs/language-barriers-and-disproportionate-minority-contact-juvenile-justice-system)

This finding challenges RIM to bring together the three programs it offers and propose a solution to this problem, which clearly can help alleviate poverty and support families. Utilizing its flexible ESOL Program, RIM is proposing to offer classes to immigrant parents who are unable to speak English in order to increase their ability to guide their children in this culture. The classes will be offered in local churches, where RIM is already known for the Cluster program, from Monday-Friday for 2 weeks. Students will be grouped by the level of English they have achieved and will be offered classes from 9-3 each day. Lunch will be provided by the congregation that is sponsoring the training. The initial training will be done in churches which have several language congregations using the building. In addition, to teaching English, this program will build bridges between the congregations.

Finally, RIM will work with the prisons where immigrants are detained to get more information on this issue and how lack of English in the family had a negative impact on the people now being deported.

Budget for Project:

Coordinator for classes in 5 locations: $10,000.

Child Care during the classes: 4,000.

Promotion   1,000

Training of Tutors in each location   5,000

Materials   1,000

Survey   4,000

TOTAL $25,000.

Food for lunches will be donated

Space for classes will be donated by local congregations

RIM is asking the Matthew 25 Grant to cover the following: ($5000)

Child Care (It is important that these care providers have a background check and are paid) $4000.

Materials (These will be given to students and will cost about $20 per student to produce)   1000.

The remaining costs will be covered by other fundraising from events and foundations.

If a parent had to pay for this kind of lessons it would cost him or her over $2000 per week. This is beyond the reach of many families, but could be an opportunity to bring our congregations together; energize the immigrant communities, and create deeper connections between the English speaking and immigrant communities.