

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 Grace Community Church
Affiliation with ABCUSA Member, Wisconsin Region
Address 201 Oak St.
Mauston, WI 53948
Phone 414-852-8970 Federal Tax ID# C2246127 #
Contact person Rev. Kim Drost email drostka@hotmail.com

2. Please submit with your application a copy of: See attached

- 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 Year 1 = \$3,700.99 Year 2 = \$580.80

5. Amount being requested from the ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant \$4000.

6. Your other funding source(s) Donations, Fundraisers, Food drives

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. Kimberly A. Drost Date Aug. 30, 2013

Printed Name/Title Reverend Kimberly A. Drost

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.



* I am a new pastor, and all I have is a post-it note with two numbers on it. The other is 39-1342867, which looks like our employer number. Hope one of these is what you are looking for!

Grace Community Church: "Packs of Food for Kids"

Mission Statement:

To show the love of Jesus Christ by filling the nutrition gap for low-income children in Mauston, WI.

Financial Statement/Budget:

See reverse side.

How the funds will be used:

Grace Community Church currently is working in partnership with the local Head Start program. Our church hosts the program, which runs two four-hour school sessions, four days a week for children who are three and four years old. The program is open only to low-income families. Most of these families are on Federal and State food and rent assistance.

We are looking to accomplish two goals with these funds.

The Head Start program currently provides lunch for all of the children but is limited by the small size of the church's residential refrigerator, which Head Start has to share with the church. We would like to add a commercial-grade 49 cubic foot refrigerator for Head Start to use while the church would use the residential sized one. This would help Head Start provide one nutritious hot meal per student per day.

The other use is a "Packs of Food for Kids" ministry the church would like to start. Our region has done some research and we have found that the children who receive free breakfasts and lunches in the school districts have problems with learning early in the week. Their aptitude and accomplishments improve toward the end of the week. Further investigation showed that for many of these children, they had nothing to eat from Friday lunch until Monday breakfast. Once they got some food in their bellies, their ability to learn improved. Some of our sister churches have started similar "Packs" programs for the elementary schools in their area.

We are looking at partnering with Mauston's two elementary schools as well, as Mauston has a high poverty rate for its size. However, we realized we already had the same situation with the kids who were already in our building, the only difference being they do not get breakfast, either. And while most of their families do get food assistance, Head Start reports that they often run out of funds toward the middle of the month.

So what we want to do is use the Matthew 25 grant funds to purchase a start-up set of backpacks that we can load with nine easy-to-make, kid-friendly meals that the children can take home with them on Thursday. They will bring the empty pack back on Monday and the church will re-load them for the following weekend.

If successful (and based on our sister church's experiences it will be), we hope to perpetrate the program through donations and fundraising. We also hope to look into ways of addressing the lack of breakfasts and dinners served during Monday through Thursday. The new refrigerator would enable us to provide fresh fruits and vegetables in this program as well, as we would be able to store such donations until the kids use them. While we will focus on our Head Start partners, we do hope to work with the elementary schools as well.

We are hoping that we can use Matthew 25 grant money to offset the start-up costs associated with this project. We believe we have the ability to perpetrate the project on our own, but we need seed money. Hunger is a big problem in our community – we want to get started ASAP and with school starting, we do not wish to wait until we have raised enough of it on our own.

We have already equipped the church with the electrical capability to handle the new refrigerator, and we based the meal cost on the Federal per-meal reimbursement program that the school district uses.

We hope the added reliable access to nutritious foods will help young people excel in the classroom.

Packs of Food - First Year

Item	Quantity	Item Cost	Total	Purpose
Commercial Refrigerator*	1	\$2,680.99	\$2,680.99	Food storage
Backpacks**	50	\$15.00	\$750.00	Food transport
Friday Meals - 9 months	36	\$2.50	\$90.00	Nutrition
Saturday Meals - 9 months	36	\$2.50	\$90.00	Nutrition
Sunday Meals - 9 months	36	\$2.50	\$90.00	Nutrition
			\$3,700.99	

Packs of Food - Subsequent Years

Backpack Attrition/New***	20	\$15.00	\$300.00	Food transport
Friday Meals - 9 months	36	\$2.60	\$93.60	Nutrition
Saturday Meals - 9 months	36	\$2.60	\$93.60	Nutrition
Sunday Meals - 9 months	36	\$2.60	\$93.60	Nutrition
			\$580.80	

**Grace Community Church will absorb the added electrical usage cost into its operating budget.*

***May purchase more depending on Head Start enrollment and/or elementary school participation.*

****Expected life of each backpack is 3 years.*