

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 12 month period. Grant funds may not be used to fund staff positions or for capital improvements to facilities. Grant awards will be sent to the ABC church or Region, checks will not be made to an individual or ministry.

1. General Information

Church or Region: **First Baptist Church of Bridgeport (Connecticut)**

Affiliation with ABCUSA: **Member Church**

Ministry of Group receiving these funds: **Progressive Prison Ministries**

Mailing Address: **126 Washington Avenue, Bridgeport, Connecticut 06604**

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

Federal Tax ID# **06-0662127**

Contact person: **Rev. Jeff Grant, JD, M Div email: jgrant3074@icloud.com, please see bio attached.**

2. Please submit with your application a copy of:

Your mission statement. **The Mission of Progressive Prison Ministries (PPM) is to provide confidential support and pastoral counseling to individuals and families with white-collar and other nonviolent incarceration issues. We offer spiritual solutions to material problems before, during and upon reentry from prison to a new and transformed life of light, faith and dignity. (More information is available at our site, Prisonist.org).**

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. **Please attached financial statement for 2015.**

3. How do you plan to use the requested funds? **In this application, we request \$5000 for direct stipends to our clients – these stipends will be administered by First Baptist Church of Bridgeport Senior Minister Hopeton Scott upon our request, to be allocated on a one-time per family basis, and may be utilized only for short-term expenses (i) for the families of incarcerated persons (i.e. heat for home, food, health care, etc.) and (ii) for the formerly incarcerated individual’s expenses relating to the prisoner reentry process (job application expenses, transportation, etc.).**
4. How will the funds assist individuals battling poverty and its effects? **The funds requested will provide direct benefits to individuals and families that have been thrust into poverty by the criminal justice system. Please see articles attached.**
5. Total cost of the project: FY 2016: **\$30,000.00**

6. Amount being requested from the ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant: **\$5000.00**
7. Your other funding source(s): **Churches, Family Foundations, Individuals. Attached is our 2015 funding list (\$17,486.85). We anticipate 2016 donations to increase to \$25,000.00, plus \$5000.00 reserved funds for the direct stipends requested herein.**

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/photos within six months of receipt of the grant.

(Signed) **Rev. Jeff Grant** (Mark/Signature) Date **Feb. 1, 2016**

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 Tina.Turner@abc-usa.org. Only electronic submissions will be accepted.

About Rev. Jeff Grant, J.D., M. Div



Minister, Advocate, Social Ethicist, Speaker, Author

Jeff is the Minister/Director of the Progressive Prison Project/Innocent Spouse & Children Project, the first ministry in the United States created to provide confidential support and pastoral counseling to individuals, families and organizations with white-collar and other nonviolent incarceration issues. After serving almost fourteen months in a Federal prison for a white-collar crime committed during his career as a lawyer, Jeff earned a Master of Divinity from Union Theological Seminary in the City of New York, with a focus in Christian Social Ethics.

Jeff has served on a number of criminal justice/prisoner reentry-related Boards including Family ReEntry, Bridgeport & New Haven, CT; Community Partners in Action (formerly the Connecticut Prison Association), Hartford, CT; and Healing Communities Network, New York, NY. Jeff has also served on the Editorial Board of the book, *The Justice Imperative: How Hyper-Incarceration Has Hijacked the American Dream*, Southport, CT and on the Advisory Board of Creative Projects Group, Los Angeles, CA (*Kahlil Gibran's "The Prophet"*). He was the recipient of the Elizabeth Bush Award for Volunteerism and the Bridgeport Reentry Collaborative Advocate of the Year Award '13, '14 & '15. JustLeadershipUSA recognized Jeff as one of fifteen National Leaders in Criminal Justice.

While serving on staff at the First Baptist Church of Bridgeport, Bridgeport, CT, as Associate Minister/Director of Prison Ministries, he founded the Bridgeport Pardons Assistance Project. He regularly provides expertise to organizations and institutions – he assisted Pivot Ministries in bringing a DMHAS faith-based ATR-III site to Fairfield County, and was a start-up advisor to Park City Green, the only nonprofit mattress recycling facility in the State of Connecticut.

Progressive Prison Project/Innocent Spouse & Children Project are Missions of Progressive Prison Ministries, Inc.
Jeff Grant, PO Box 1232, Weston, CT 06883, prisonist.org, jgrant@prisonist.org, (o) 203-769-1096 (m) 203-339-5887

Jeff's has spoken at [The Nantucket Project](#), Nantucket, MA; [Greenwich Leadership Forum](#), Greenwich, CT, the Corrections Ministries and Chaplains Association (CMCA) Correctional Ministry Summit, , Wheaton College, IL; [Salons at Stowe](#), Harriet Beecher Stowe Center, Hartford, CT; Union Theological Seminary in the City of New York; Yale Divinity School, New Haven, CT; and many houses of worship and other venues.

He has been the subject of articles in national and regional media including Forbes, Absolute Return/HedgeFund Intelligence, Fairfield County Business Journal, New York Magazine, The Vision (newspaper of the United Methodist Conference of NY), Weston Magazine Group, Greenwich Time, Greenwich Sentinel and others.

Jeff is also the editor of the important and widely read blog and site, [prisonist.org](#), at which he authors, edits and curates content around national and international criminal justice advocacy/ministry themes, including exclusive articles and guest blogs written by some of the world's foremost experts in their fields. He is also a major presence advocating for prison and social justice reform on social media, including [Facebook](#), [Linked In](#), [Twitter](#), [Google+](#), [Pinterest](#), [Tumblr](#), etc.

He has volunteered at Silver Hill Hospital, a psychiatric and addiction hospital, New Canaan, CT; at Liberation House, in Stamford, CT; and served as a School Board Trustee in Westchester County, New York. He is certified in CPT Non-Violent Crisis Intervention, in CPR-AED by the American Red Cross, by the National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI) Family-to-Family Education Program.

Jeff formerly practiced real estate and corporate law, and served as outside general counsel to some of the largest real estate equity, management and brokerage companies in the New York-metro area.

Jeff lives in Weston, Connecticut with his wife Lynn. He has two daughters, a stepdaughter, a granddaughter, and has played guitar for over forty years – he plays lead guitar in the church funk/gospel band whenever they will allow him to play.

For more information and to reach Rev. Jeff Grant: [prisonist.org](#), jgrant@prisonist.org.

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About Lynn Springer



Founding Advocate, Innocent Spouse & Children Project

Lynn is the Founding Advocate of the Innocent Spouse & Children Project. As the innocent partner of a white-collar criminal, and a mother, Lynn is called to this ministry with a heart of compassion and understanding. She assists women and families in finding ethical ways through faith and practical solutions to a new, sturdy, healthy way of life. Lynn's concern for children and social justice for all people led her to several nonprofit Board and volunteer situations, including: as curriculum consultant and essay reader at Friends of Nick, a NYC faith-based foundation created to build character and integrity in underprivileged inner city youth; as a member of the Board of Directors of Pathways, Greenwich, CT, at which she advocated for the

needs and care of the mentally ill; and on the Board of the International Aids Charitable Foundation, NYC. She is a long-time supporter of criminal justice/prison initiatives: Re-Entry Ministry, a faith-based halfway house for women in E. Bridgeport, CT, Family ReEntry in Bridgeport & New Haven, CT, a nonprofit serving formerly incarcerated people and their families, and Pivot Ministries, Bridgeport, CT, a faith-based halfway house for addiction recovery. As a woman of faith, Lynn was pleased to serve terms as Deacon and Senior Deacon at the Second Congregational Church of Greenwich, CT.

Together with her husband Rev. Jeff Grant, Lynn co-founded the Fresh Start Garden of Hope - a Family Reentry project where ex-offenders helped to convert a blighted block in inner city Bridgeport into the largest privately owned public use park and garden in the State of Connecticut. Lynn and Jeff speak together about their ministry on a regular basis on local radio shows and in houses of worship.

For more information and to reach Lynn Springer: prisonist.org, lspringer@prisonist.org.

Category Summary

Date Range: Custom Dates (1/1/2015 – 12/31/2015)

Accounts: All Accounts

Categories: All Categories

Tags: All Tags

Type: Summary for all categories

Show Memo/Notes

▼ Money In \$17,486.85

Donation Income \$17,486.07

Interest Earned \$0.78

▼ Money Out -\$14,197.75

Auto & Transport -\$2,246.74

Auto Mileage -\$1,100.00

Gas & Fuel -\$1,047.49

Parking -\$8.75

Public Transportation -\$45.50

Tolls -\$45.00

Bills & Utilities -\$2,686.47

Internet, Phone, Cable -\$1,466.47

Mobile Phone	- \$1,220.00
Business Expenses	- \$4,396.94
Advertising (Business)	- \$113.30
Development	- \$1,730.00
Domain Names	- \$240.53
Postage and Delivery (Business)	- \$650.73
Printing and Reproduction (Business)	- \$225.93
Prof and Legal (Business)	- \$86.00
Supplies (Business)	- \$1,350.45
Dining & Entertainment	- \$1,252.86
Education	- \$275.23
Education (Other)	- \$150.23
Webinars & Courses	- \$125.00
Gifts & Donations	- \$75.56
Shopping	- \$3,263.95
Electronics & Software	- \$3,263.95

Money In:	\$17,486.85
Money Out:	- \$14,197.75
Net Total:	\$3,289.10

▼ Other Transactions

Neutral (Category total is zero)

Fees & Charges	\$0.00
ATM Fee	\$0.00

Transaction Detail For: Cash & Credit

Income, Last Year, All Cash & Credit

Split	Date	Payee	Category	Amount	Account
	12/31/2015	INTEREST PAID	Interest Earned	0.31	BankWell 1698
	12/31/2015	DonationFrom Vernon Baldwin	Donation Income	485.20	PayPal 3514
	12/9/2015	Donation from Muir	Donation Income	200.00	BankWell 1698
	12/5/2015	Donation from Dumas, Christ Church	Donation Income	150.00	BankWell 1698
	12/1/2015	DonationFrom James Hodel	Donation Income	72.52	PayPal 3514
	12/1/2015	DonationFrom Ellen Vollinger	Donation Income	48.25	PayPal 3514
	12/1/2015	DonationFrom everett schenk	Donation Income	193.90	PayPal 3514
	12/1/2015	DonationFrom Jonathan Mathias	Donation Income	48.25	PayPal 3514
	12/1/2015	DonationFrom James Segelstein	Donation Income	96.80	PayPal 3514
	12/1/2015	DonationFrom Raul Feliciano	Donation Income	96.80	PayPal 3514
	12/1/2015	DonationFrom Edward Schenk	Donation Income	48.25	PayPal 3514
	12/1/2015	DonationFrom Bill Steiger	Donation Income	9.41	PayPal 3514
	11/30/2015	INTEREST PAID	Interest Earned	0.29	BankWell 1698
	11/30/2015	DonationFrom Sam Owen	Donation Income	193.90	PayPal 3514
	11/30/2015	DonationFrom Melissa Tanis	Donation Income	23.97	PayPal 3514
	11/30/2015	DonationFrom BARRY DIAMOND	Donation Income	9.41	PayPal 3514
	11/28/2015	DonationFrom Henry Lee	Donation Income	9.41	PayPal 3514
	11/16/2015	Donation from Edward S. Moore Foundation	Donation Income	5,000.00	BankWell 1698
	11/4/2015	Donation from Tate	Donation Income	300.00	BankWell 1698
	10/6/2015	Donation from Griswold Foundation	Donation Income	2,000.00	BankWell 1698
	5/29/2015	INTEREST PAID	Interest Earned	0.18	BankWell 1698
	5/14/2015	Donation from McEntire	Donation Income	5,000.00	BankWell 1698
	4/10/2015	Donation from Malta	Donation Income	500.00	BankWell 1698
	3/18/2015	Donation from Malta	Donation Income	500.00	BankWell 1698
	3/3/2015	Donation from Malta	Donation Income	1,000.00	BankWell 1698
	2/18/2015	Donation from Norfield	Donation Income	1,000.00	BankWell 1698
	1/8/2015	Donation from Christ Church	Donation Income	500.00	BankWell 1698

Total Account Inflows: \$17,486.85

Total Account Outflows: \$0.00

Net Account Total: \$17,486.85

**Progressive Prison Project/
Innocent Spouse & Children Project**
P.O. Box 1232, Weston, CT 06883, Prisonist.org

The First Ministries in the U.S. created to provide confidential religious/spiritual support and counseling to individuals and families with white-collar and other nonviolent incarceration issues - before, during and upon reentry from prison



A SPIRITUAL SOLUTION

In the 10+ years we've been working with individuals and families before, during & upon reentry from prison, this is our simple conclusion: those who adopt a Spiritual Solution evolve and cope more successfully than those who do not.

We offer spiritual solutions for material problems, and strive to engender and evoke understanding and compassion in all people for all people.

WHAT WE DO

Shepherding people and families with care and compassion all the way through the incarceration and reentry process to a new and transformed life is our mission. We engage in direct pastoral care in person and by telephone/ Skype/ FaceTime/ mail/ email (many Federal prisons now have email).

Confidentiality. *As clergy, our communications and counseling are strictly confidential.* For this reason, we are often the first people that families call when they are ready to end their isolation and reach out for help. This is also a major reason that many attorneys allow their clients to maintain relationships with us.

Pastoral Care. Utilizing our professional backgrounds and real world experience in religion, law, business, reentry, addiction & mental health recovery, family work, ethics, and advocacy, we are the only ministry in the country created and committed to guide individuals and families through this difficult time. Our services also provide all the practical steps for the entire process.

Sanctuary & Refuge. We are a safe and secure place of sanctuary, privacy and refuge where individuals and families can discuss matters of shame, ostracism, grief, remorse, etc. with complete confidentiality, and can learn, grow and evolve into the spiritual beings God intends them to be.

Expert Testimony. We can provide expert testimony services to criminal defense teams to assist them in presenting a truthful and balanced package to the court. Utilizing our [unparalleled and unique bios](#), we can also document the individual's and family's fresh start in writing, and in testimony before the court.

Dispute Resolution & Mediation. Individuals and families who are experiencing issues in the criminal justice system often have many other pressing matters including financial problems and disputes, family disruption, etc. Using our unique experience and backgrounds, we can assist in resolving these matters.

OUTREACH

Boards. It is our honor to serve on the Board of Directors of the two largest nonprofits in Connecticut dedicated to families affected by issues of incarceration, *Community Partners in Action* and *Family ReEntry*. In New York City, we serve on the Board of *Healing Communities Network*. Additionally, we serve on the Editorial Board of the book & movement, *The Justice Imperative* (CT), and on the advisory boards of *The Phoenix Association* (CT) and *Creative Projects Group* (Los Angeles, CA).

Speaking engagements. We have had the privilege of speaking at some of the most important and influential venues in the United States, including (links are underlined): [The Nantucket Project](#), [Harriet Beecher Stowe Center](#) (Hartford, CT), [Greenwich Leadership Forum](#), Correctional Ministries & Chaplains Assoc. Conference (Wheaton College, IL), Yale Divinity School, Union Theological Seminary, churches, prisons and community reentry programs, etc.

Sermons. Preaching frequently at churches and houses of worship provides an opportunity to share our work and spread the message of compassion, forgiveness and redemption.

Media. Articles featuring Rev. Jeff Grant and our ministry have appeared in Forbes, HedgeFund Intelligence/Absolute Return, New York Magazine, Fairfield County Business Journal, All 14 Titles of Weston Magazine Group (Greenwich Country Capital), etc.

Additional Advocacy/Press. We further advocate for criminal justice reform by providing quotes, sound-bites and non-confidential information to the press.

Blog. Authoring, curating and editing the important and widely read blog and site, prisonist.org, we focus on national and international criminal justice advocacy/ministry themes. Exclusive articles and guest blogs are posted by some of the world's foremost experts in their fields.

Social media. Progressive Prison Project is a major presence in criminal justice reform on [Twitter](https://twitter.com/progressiveprisonproject), [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/progressiveprisonproject), [Linked In](https://www.linkedin.com/company/progressive-prison-project), [Pinterest](https://www.pinterest.com/progressiveprisonproject), [Google+](https://plus.google.com/100000000000000000000), [Tumblr](https://www.tumblr.com/progressiveprisonproject), etc.

DONATIONS

We are grateful for all donations to our Ministries that enable us to grow, reach out and serve this community for which there is far too little understanding, compassion and empathy. Donations can be made by credit card/PayPal via the "Donate" button on our site, prisonist.org, or by sending your check payable to: "Progressive Prison Ministries, Inc." P.O. Box 1232, Weston, Connecticut 06883.

Progressive Prison Ministries, Inc. is a CT Religious Corp. with 501c3 status - all donations are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law. Thank you for your support and generosity.

If you, a friend or a family member are experiencing a white-collar or nonviolent incarceration issue, please contact us and we will promptly send you an information package by mail, email or via Dropbox.

The darkest days of a person's life can be a time of renewal and hope.