

# 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 Friendship Baptist Church  
Affiliation with ABCUSA Member  
Address 437 Mitchell St. SW  
Atlanta GA 30311  
Phone 404-688-0206 Federal Tax ID#  
Contact person Frederick Rucker Jr. email FrederickRuckerJr@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. Fundraising initiative. No budget established currently.

## 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 \$5000

5. Amount being requested from the ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant \$5000

6. Your other funding source(s) None. Just learned about grant from a minister that thought my ministries were appropriate for the grant.

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) F.R. Rucker Jr. Date 8/30/2013  
Printed Name/Title Frederick L. Rucker, Jr. / Sr. Usher

## 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](mailto:beth.fogg@abc-usa.org). Only electronic submissions will be accepted.



**Friendship Baptist Church Mission – Matthew 25 Grant Application**

We are the people of God, called as His church, whose head is Jesus Christ;

We understand that our purpose is to use our energies, resources, and facilities to provide in the spirit of Christ, worship and preaching, study and nurturing, comfort and caring, recreation and sharing, outreach and witnessing to the power of God's word.

We strive to serve through ministries within our local setting and to join with others in regional and worldwide ministries the work of the Kingdom of God.

**Friendship Baptist Church Matthew 25 Grant Application Budgets**

**School Supplies Ministry:**

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>USAGE</b>
2012	\$1100 (approx)	111 Back Packs with basic supplies included within. Refreshments for guests included in amount
2013	\$588 to-date. Fundraising ends Sep 1.	27 Back Packs purchased. Classroom supplemental materials will be purchased with balance of funds raised.

**Feed the Hungry Ministry:**

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>USAGE</b>
2011	\$600 (approx.)	Members brought non-perishables and donated money for meats and essential beverages. Items given to the Atlanta Food Bank for holiday distribution.
2012	\$1200 (approx.)	Fundraised and purchased planned meals. Children's ministry decorated boxes and filled with food items. Families invited to worship and given food gift baskets.

The Matthew 25 Grant would supply funding to organize these ministries into a larger, goal oriented ministry that provides measureable life enhancements for the children and families that participate.



Contact: Frederick Rucker, Jr.  
Phone: 678-793-7676

### **Friendship Baptist Church Matthew 25 Grant Application**

#### **How do you plan to use the requested funds?**

Currently, I lead two worthy ministries that have a direct and significant impact on the community surrounding Friendship Baptist Church in Atlanta, GA.

One of these ministries is The School Supplies Ministry. I solicit members to donate \$20 to purchase a back pack for needy kids that were not able to purchase the basic school supplies to start the year off on the right foot. We reach out to the Boys and Girls Club, the YMCA, and 3-5 schools within a 3 mile radius of the church to identify kids in need. This year, we also reached out to see if there are classrooms we could sponsor to help the teachers supply supplemental learning materials to facilitate learning.

We can use these grant funds to enhance our gifts to encourage social, scholastic, and interpersonal development of the students in these schools. I also envision using the grant funds to provide scholarships for essay writing contests to encourage constructive, socially conscious reading, writing, and arithmetic skills for kids living in the community.

The other ministry is The Feed the Hungry Ministry. I solicit members to donate \$20 to purchase food items for holiday meal gift boxes. These boxes contain all the ingredients a family of 4 needs to prepare a full Christmas dinner. We identify families in need in the community, invite them to worship with us on Christmas Sunday, and share these food gift boxes with them. We also make efforts to keep them engaged with spiritual activities and resources to promote healthy, spiritually conscious family values. They are overwhelmingly blessed by our giving. We are likewise blessed to be able to be used to do the good will of God. We seek many opportunities and resources to expand these ministries. The Matthew 25 Grant would be a blessing to these ministries.

#### **How will the funds specifically assist individuals battling poverty and its effects?**

My vision for using The Matthew 25 Grant of \$5000 would be to find the most impoverished group of families in the community that are willing to commit to self and family improvement. We will use the funds to expand our support of the classrooms by purchasing additional learning tools to improve mastery of the more difficult subjects, such as Math and Science. We will also use the funds to expand our feed the hungry drive to other times during the year when people suffer from hunger the most.

One of my prayers of faith is to sponsor a classroom and select a topic from the curriculum that we can lead research project based on topics that interest the students and add to learning that is focused on the curriculum. At the end of the term, the students present their research to the congregation and their schools. The top two students would receive a scholarship for their college education costs. The grant could also be directed to this initiative and would serve as a budgetary baseline for future annual spiritually scholastic competitions funded by the grant.