

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 a direct relationship with American Baptist Churches USA to be eligible to apply, and only one application per church or Region 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 payable to an individual or ministry.

1. General Information

Church or Region: *First Baptist Church (ABC Church) (ABC-NE)*
Region Affiliation with ABCUSA: *ABC of Nebraska*
Ministry or Group receiving these funds: *The Diaper Depot*
Mailing Address: *3009 Avenue I - Scottsbluff NE 69361*
Phone: *308-635-2548* Federal Tax ID#: *470424781*
Contact person: *Chris Smith* Email: *bulldogs4jesus@gmail.com*
308-631-5618

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. Specifically, how do you plan to use the requested funds?

see separate page

4. How will the funds assist individuals battling poverty and its effects?

see separate page

5. Total cost of the project: *We budget \$6000 annually / \$500 monthly*

6. Amount being requested from the ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant: *\$4000*

7. Your other funding source(s): *Private donations (funds + diapers), local grant through Snow-Redfern Foundation*

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.

Application submitted by: *Christopher M. Smith* Date: *2/28/16*
Deacon Chair + member of
Diaper Depot Committee

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; September 1 for grants distributed on October 15
- Completed applications should be sent via email to Tina.Turner@abc-usa.org. Only electronic submissions will be accepted.

See the following information and instructions for more details.

How will we use our funds and how will this battle poverty and its effects?

The requested funds will go towards the sole purpose of providing diapers for the ministry. We get a large amount of food, clothing, household items, etc. donated for this outreach, but the diapers are the main reason for doing this and all the funds will go directly towards their cost.

The funds we raise for diapers specifically assist and provide needs for individuals and families in poverty. Due to the large amount of poverty, teen pregnancy and other negative social issues in our community, the Diaper Depot is providing needs for our neighbors in a way that no one else is. We do our best to assist in a tangible and conservative way and be good stewards of the funds God has provided us. We give out individually packed plastic grocery bags with minimal amount of diapers in each bag depending on the diaper size of the child. This is done to eliminate anyone taking full bags to the store and attempting to exchange them for money. There are no questions asked of families, they are simply asked to sign in with their name and size of diapers needed. We also feel that a conservative amount of diapers can get parents by until the next payday without forcing them to rely on us totally. We are here to EMPOWER not enable! We feel that if the church was doing what God has called us all to do, the government would not have to have their hands in everything. On this note, we will not take government funds or grants, only funds from Christ-Centered or community minded groups or individuals. Diapers are normally only handed out on distribution days at the church (the fourth Saturday of each month from 9-11am) but emergency supplies are available if deemed necessary and we have a referral. We have formed partnerships with many local organizations and agencies to help us find and fulfill the needs for distribution.

Helping keep children clean and healthy is our goal. Jesus said to love the little children and never turn them away and we follow this command. We are also building relationships and openness so that the door may be opened in which we can share the Gospel of Jesus Christ and bring folks into a relationship with Him.

On a side note, this ministry came about as a result of our MCLE training with Glynis LaBarre from the ABC Home Mission Society. It has continued to grow and become part of our community and we truly appreciate ABC/USA for inspiring us to find needs that need to be met and doing it in Jesus' Name. Through the MCLE training, prayer, discussion, initial grant funding, and along with the funding provided over the last couple of years through the Matthew 25 grant, this ministry, which is so simple, is assisting families who may have to choose between diapers for their little ones and putting food on their table. By sharing in this way, needs are being met and poverty and its effects are being dealt with. Praise Jesus!

Diaper Depot Mission Statement

To provide a solution to a commonly overlooked need of both negatively financially impacted parents of young children, and single parents, foster parents, adoptive parents, etc. of young children who share the same difficulties.

A further purpose is to build relationships with individuals and families to build trust and openness to the ultimate end of sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Diaper Depot Budget

Our budget process is very simple. We budget \$500 monthly for diapers and diapers only. Any other items such as wipes, lotion, powder, clothing, formula, food, etc. are by donation only. No funds are used for any of these items, just diapers. Due to good amounts of donated diapers, an up and down cycle of need and us being more efficient with our distribution, the last few months have averaged approximately \$350-400 monthly. We do realize this could change at any moment, though. We have also begun working at a mission in a low-income area of Scottsbluff called "The Jeremiah House". We do extra Diaper Depots there twice a year to meet needs of folks in that area where they may be on foot and do not have vehicles to get to the church on distribution days and that makes for a larger than normal distributions on those months (February and June). Therefore, we are leaving our budget at \$500 monthly knowing we will not go over that amount but may well stay under it at times.

We did receive a grant from a local group, the Snow-Redfern Foundation, in the amount of \$5000 in the fall of 2015 and we receive \$500-700 annually in other cash donations. These funds along with the requested amount from this grant would put us slightly above our expected expenses and leave us with a few extra funds to be available at the end of this grant cycle.