

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*

Region Affiliation with ABCUSA: *Mid-America*

Ministry or Group receiving these funds: *Friends in Fun and Fellowship (FFF)*

Mailing Address: *434 Baltimore St., Waterloo, IA 50701*

Phone: *319-234-1537*

Contact person: *Susan Price*

Federal Tax ID#: *42-07163560019*

Email: *Waterloo fbc@yahoo.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.

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

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

5. Total cost of the project:

6. Amount being requested from the ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant:

7. Your other funding source(s):

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.

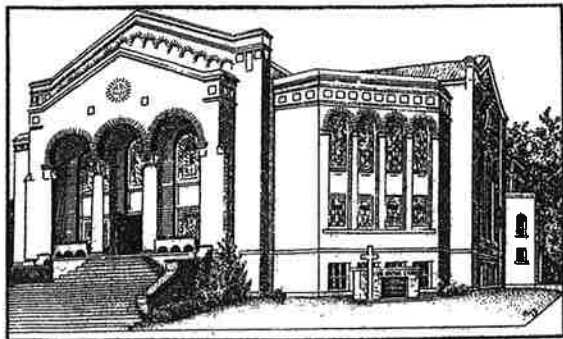
Application submitted by: *Susan J Price*

Date: *2/29/16*

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.



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

434 Baltimore Street
Waterloo, Iowa 50701
(319) 234-1537

Friends in Fun and Fellowship Mission Statement

Friends in Fun and Fellowship is a neighborhood ministry for children hosted by First Baptist Church. Its purpose is to proclaim the gospel and to promote fellowship with our neighborhood and community.

Bylaws of First Baptist Church of Waterloo, Iowa

ARTICLE 1. NAME, CHARACTER AND PURPOSE

- 1.1. Name - The name of this corporation will be "First Baptist Church of Waterloo, Iowa," and its principal place of business will be in the City of Waterloo, Black Hawk County, Iowa.
- 1.2. Polity - Its government is vested in the body of believers who compose it. It is subject to the control of no other ecclesiastical body, but it recognizes and sustains the obligations of mutual counsel and cooperation which are common among Baptist churches. It supports the traditional Baptist principle of religious freedom with complete separation of church and state.
- 1.3. Doctrine - It receives the scriptures as its authority in matters of faith and practice. Its understanding of Christian truth as contained therein is in essential accord with the belief of American Baptist Churches. It adheres to the principle of Believer's Baptism and the ministry of all believers.
- 1.4. Purpose - Its purpose or object is the worship of Almighty God, the salvation of souls, and the advancement of the cause of Christ at home and abroad. To carry out these purposes it will: maintain services of divine worship, promote and support missionary activities (local, national and international), foster Christian education, labor for the establishment of peace and good will among peoples, nations and races, and ensure the practice of Christian ideals. In the attainment of these general objectives, the church will support and cooperate with the American Baptist Churches, the Mid-American Baptist Churches, or their recognized successors.

ARTICLE 2. BELIEVERS MEMBERSHIP

- 2.1. Admission of Members - Candidates for membership will make their application to the church at some regular worship service. Persons may be received into membership by any of the following methods upon recommendation of the Pastor, the Diaconate Ministry Team, and majority vote of the Active Members at any regular worship service or business meeting of the church.
 - 2.1.1. By Public Profession of Faith - Baptism by immersion is a scripturally ordained way of making a profession of faith in Jesus Christ as Lord, and it is required of all those not previously baptized. Baptized believers who have been members of other Christian churches may be received as members upon their Christian experience.
 - 2.1.2. By Transfer of Membership - Members from Baptist and other Christian churches may be received by letters of recommendation and dismissal from their respective churches.
 - 2.1.3. By Re-instatement from the Former Membership Roll - Former Members may be reinstated as Active Members upon recommendation of the Diaconate Ministry Team and majority vote of the congregation.

1 General Information

2. **Mission Statement** See attached sheet.

2 Financial statement:

Staff:

Director: \$13/hr. x 5.5 hrs./day x 14 days = \$1001.00. 14 hrs. planning time= \$182.00.

FICA and MEDI@ 7.65% x \$1183.00 = \$90.50. Total \$1273.50

Teachers: \$10/hr. x 4.5 hrs. x 14 days= \$630. FICA and MEDI @7.65% x \$630= \$48.20. Total = \$678.20
\$678.20 x 5 teachers = \$3391.00.

Total staff cost \$1273.50 + \$3391.00=\$4664.50.

Supplies:

Crafts, paper supplies, curriculum, fees and transportation estimated at \$1700-\$2400.

Healthy snacks and meal estimated at \$600.

Total program costs= \$7664.50.

3. **Specifically, how do you plan to use the requested funds?** We are requesting \$2300.

\$1700 is to be used to provide engaging activities in a safe and fun learning environment which models responsible Christian attitudes and relationships. Funds will be used for curriculum (\$145), and crafts, and activities each day (\$850). We do not purchase a curriculum packet for each child, but use free resources to develop our own activities or purchase discounted materials. Additionally, we will use funds to provide transportation of 60-75 adults and children to special events at the Bluedorn Science Imaginarium and/or Phelps Youth Pavilion, local museums. Fees are \$5.00/child and \$5-10.00/adult or approximately \$450 per visit. Bus transportation cost is estimated at approximately \$250 for two hours.

\$600 is requested for daily nutritional snacks and a family celebration meal at the end of the program. Food is purchased, as much as possible, through the Northeast Iowa Food Bank. The estimated cost for snacks is \$.35/child/day x 14 days x 60 children at a total of \$294. An additional \$306 is estimated to cover the cost of feeding a meal to 60 children and families.

4. **How will the funds assist individuals battling poverty and its effects?** We believe that an investment in children at an early age will develop responsible adults, good citizens, respectful families, and strong neighborhoods with reduced incidents of community crime. FFF teaches Biblical truths and values that encourage Christian growth. Children will learn trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship. Children from at-risk families are often left at home in the summer, either alone or with only slightly older siblings. These poorly supervised children are prone to engage in unsafe activities and are exposed to neighborhood crime. When considering the number of calls to the police department for service or assistance, the calls coming from our church neighborhood tend to be from 3.5 to 4.5 times as frequent as those representing the average of all calls from Waterloo. For example in 2010, District 50, in which First Baptist is located, placed 2,773 calls for service and the average number of calls for service in all districts in Waterloo was only 617. In 2015, District 50 placed 2,056 calls for service and the Waterloo average was 562.6. There is a trend toward a reduced number of calls from District 50, but it is still quite high compared with all of Waterloo. We believe by providing a safe positive learning environment we can change the outcome for these children. This program also invites parents to be involved with their child and provides not only a rich learning environment, but also examples of positive behavior modification.

The US poverty level is 15.8% of the population; Iowa's poverty level is 12.7%; Waterloo's poverty level is 19.6% and the Church Row Neighborhood, where we are located, has the highest poverty level in Waterloo. Children from low income and at-risk populations seldom have the opportunity to participate in cultural activities which can expand their world outlook and help them to dream. Part of the funds will be used for field trips to the local Bluedorn Science Imaginarium and/or the Phelps Youth Pavilion. The Imaginarium offers demonstrations of how science affects our everyday lives, and hands on exhibits where students can fire an air cannon or create their own laser show. At the Phelps Youth Pavilion, students learn how art has the ability to change the world through illusion, invention, and storytelling.

We believe that due to poverty, nutrition is a problem in our neighborhood, especially during the summer months. In 2014, 90% of the children attending Irving Elementary School, one block from the church, received free or reduced lunches, up from 65% in 2004. In 2015, 69.5% of the student population at Irving was identified as a minority population: White (29%), Multi-race (11%), Asian (4 %), Black (32%), Hispanic (17%), Pacific (2%), and Indian (.4%). The neighborhood community includes Burmese and Bosnian war refugees. When families no longer receive nutritional support from schools during the summer, it often means children are at an increased risk of hunger and developmental decline due to poor nutrition. Healthy snacks such as fresh fruits, vegetables, yogurt, low-fat crackers, cheese, and low-sugar sweets are an important part of providing essential nutrition. In addition, our collaboration with Waterloo Public Schools allows us to build our FFF programming around the free breakfast and lunch program provided at our location.

Parents and families are invited to a free meal and program on the last day. The local police and fire department are also invited to be a part of this day, creating an opportunity for families to become acquainted with the neighborhood police and fire department. This is especially essential in a neighborhood where many parents have limited English.

5. **Total Cost of the project:** \$7664.50

6. **Amount being requested from the ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant:** \$2300

7. **Your other funding sources:** Individual donors provide funds to help with costs. Costs are kept as low as possible by inviting community organizations to share in providing learning experiences. We also create our own activity materials and purchase food from The Northeast Iowa Food Bank.

ABCUSA MATTHEW 25 GRANT APPLICATION-First Baptist Church, Waterloo, IA

Friends in Fun and Fellowship (FFF) is a free, multi-week summer program designed to provide a safe, and loving learning environment for children in kindergarten through fifth grade. FFF teaches Biblical truths and values that encourage Christian growth. We believe that an investment in children at an early age will develop responsible adults, good citizens, respectful families, and strong neighborhoods with reduced incidents of community crime. The FFF program operates at First Baptist Church, 434 Baltimore, in Waterloo, IA. The church is one block from its' Partner in Education, Irving Elementary School. The summer program collaborates with the Waterloo Community School District Meal Program, Black Hawk County Extension Service, Northeast Iowa Food Bank, and Church Row Historic Neighborhood Association. First Baptist Church is a designated 501(c)3 entity.

Friends in Fun and Fellowship provides activities in five literacy or interest centers: science & nutrition, arts & crafts, music & reading, board games & puzzles, and recreation. Two days a week the Black Hawk County Extension Service provides activities that teach good nutrition and cooking skills. Other community agencies that have provided programming and learning activities for FFF include: the Wartburg College Science Department; the Black Hawk County Humane Society; the Black Hawk County Waste Reduction Department; the Waterloo Public Library; Blue Zones, a community-wide initiative that promotes change across multiple community sectors in order to help residents live healthier, happier, and longer lives; and Quota Club's Cops 'N' Kids Literacy Program which helps police officers build bonds by distributing books to children.

FFF incorporates the Character Counts behavioral guidelines used nationwide and based on the Six Pillars of Character: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship. Children are taught to be honest, reliable, and loyal to their families, friends, and country. They will learn to love others as themselves, to be tolerant and accepting of differences, and to be considerate of others' feelings. The theme for activities each year is based on Biblical truths. Children learn that God loves them and wants to be a part of their lives.

FFF is also committed to helping meet the basic nutritional needs of neighborhood children. In 2014, 90% of the children attending Irving Elementary School, located one block from the church, received free or reduced lunches, up from 65% in 2004. In 2015, 69.5% of the student population at Irving was identified as a minority population: White (29%), Multi-race (11%), Asian (4 %), Black (32%), Hispanic (17%), Pacific (2%), and Indian (.4%). The neighborhood community includes Burmese and Bosnian war refugees. When families no longer receive nutritional support during the summer, it often means children are at an increased risk of hunger and developmental decline due to poor nutrition. First Baptist collaborates with the Waterloo School District who provides both a free breakfast and lunch to any child under 18 at our location. FFF is scheduled to fit between the breakfast and lunch times, usually from 9:15-12:15 Monday through Friday from mid-June to mid-July. In addition, we provide daily nutritional snacks, and a family meal at the end of the program.

In 2015, the total enrollment reached 120 with a daily average attendance of 47. The children are grouped according to grade level. The lead teachers, who provide a positive adult role model for the children, are frequently certified or retired teachers, or college students in education. Additionally, 5-8 volunteers support the program each day. Volunteers may be from the neighborhood, church congregation, or the children's families.

First Baptist Church has offered this extended summer activity program for more than 25 years, despite escalating costs, because children need a safe and fun learning environment in the summer time where they can learn Biblical truths, positive behavioral skills, and receive essential nutrition. The program costs include a paid staff with a director and five lead teachers. Cost for staff in 2016 is estimated at \$4664.50. Additional costs for daily healthy snacks, a celebration meal with families, paper supplies, crafts, curriculum, and transportation and fees for field trips are estimated at \$3000. Congregation members provide financial donations and donate some craft supplies and snacks.

The number of families who return each year, the continued support of our partners, and the increasing positive behavioral skills, and Christian growth seen in the children involved reflects the success of the program.