

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. Grant awards will be sent to the ABC church or organization, checks will not be made payable to an individual or ministry.

1. General Information:

Organization Name FIBCO Family Services, Inc.
Affiliation with ABCUSA (Check made payable to) First Institutional Baptist Church
Mailing Address 1141 E. Jefferson St., Phoenix, AZ 85034
Phone (602) 258-1998 ext. 2226 Federal Tax ID# 86-0434933
Contact person Damara Lotten email Damara.Lotten@fibco.org

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. 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 \$5,000

5. Amount being requested from the ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant \$5,000

6. Your other funding source(s) None outside of donations, a salary grant from FIBC, and a government grant/contract for our housing program.

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) Damara N. Lotten Date 9/1/15

Printed Name/Title Damara N. Lotten / Executive Director of FIBCO

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.



2. Mission Statement

The mission of FIBCO Family Services, Inc. is to meet the needs of our community by providing resources and education to help individuals and families become self-sustaining. Our organizational vision is to serve as a catalyst in bringing organizations and groups together for the purpose of forming partnerships and alliances, so that we can leverage resources in addressing more effectively the needs of our community.

2. Financial Statement

The projected budget for this outreach ministry is as follows:

Item Descriptions	Budget Amount
5 Desktop Computers (est. \$500 each)	\$2,500
Computer Software	\$1,000
Day Bus Passes (100 passes at \$6.50 each)	\$650
Marketing (flyers, ads, etc.)	\$300
Large Bulletin Board	\$250
Supplies (ink, paper, pens, pencils, etc.)	\$300
TOTAL:	\$5,000

3. How do you plan to use the requested funds? How will the funds specifically assist individuals battling poverty and its effects?

"Unemployment & underemployment lies at the core of poverty. For the poor labour is often the only asset they can use to improve their well-being. [...] The contribution of the [job] growth process to poverty reduction does not depend only on the rate of growth, but also on the ability of the poor to respond to the increasing demand for labour in the more productive categories of employment." (United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, <http://undesadspd.org/Poverty/PovertyandEmployment.aspx>)

As the non-profit, emancipation arm of First Institutional Baptist Church, the mission of FIBCO Family Services is to meet the community's needs by providing resources and education to help individuals and families become self-sustaining. In order to achieve that mission, we have to address the issue of poverty that plagues so many. Currently, we are addressing the needs of our community's impoverished by providing meals through our food pantry, clothes through our clothing distribution center, and housing through our affordable housing program. In addition, we provide support services to our African refugee population, many of whom also live in poverty. While these programs address the emergency needs of individuals and families, we recognize that they are not long-term solutions to their struggle with poverty.

As indicated by the United Nations' Department of Economic Security and Affairs, one of the root causes of poverty is unemployment. Even as jobs are created, those living in poverty have to have the skills and means to respond to available job opportunities. In an effort to address these demands, FIBCO has partnered with City of Phoenix to offer a workforce access point that enables the community to have access to computers in our facility. Currently, the computers in our lab are very out-of-date and do not function very well. As a result, it has limited our capacity to meet our community's needs.

With the support of the American Baptist Churches USA Matthew 25 Grant, we would be able to expand the services that we provide. Our access point would evolve into the FIBCO College & Career Center, which would be dedicated to helping members of our community, especially those that are impoverished and unemployed, gain the skills they need to enter the workforce.

The funding we would receive would go toward obtaining new, functioning computers for the Center. The computers would be used to provide job skills training in topics such as keyboarding and basic computer software. As the program advances, more advanced skills can be offered in subjects like graphic design and business plan production. We will also provide workshops in completing job applications, résumé building, interviewing, and dressing professionally. Additionally, the computers would be used to assist individuals in completing financial aid forms and gaining entrance into post-secondary education institutions and vocational programs. The Center will also help members of our African refugee population learn English as a second language and offer native English speakers the opportunity to learn Spanish as a second language in order to enhance their ability to participate and be competitive in the local job market.

A small portion of the funding would also be used to market the program to the public and the remainder would go toward purchasing ink, paper, a bulletin board for posting job openings, a scholarship file cabinet, and software for the computers. As an incentive to visit the Career Center and attend workshops regularly, we will also use some of the Mathew 25 funding to purchase bus passes for participants in need of transportation assistance to visit the Center and look for jobs.

Through the Matthew 25 Grant, we will provide impoverished peoples with free access to computers, guidance, education, and job skills that can prepare them for the workforce. This access will enable them to become self-sustaining and will have a long-term impact on their overall well-being.