

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 _____ Refugee Immigration Ministry _____
Affiliation with ABCUSA _____ RIM is funded by Children in Poverty grant and works in partnership with TABCOM (sharing a staff member and a board member) and has engaged numerous TABCOM Congregations in the project for which we are requesting funds. _____
Address _____ 142 Pleasant Street, Malden, MA 02148 _____
Phone _____ 781-322-1011 x 302 _____ Federal Tax ID# _____ 04-32000436 _____
Contact person The Rev. Ruth H. Bersin, Ph.D., Executive Director _____ email ruth.rim@verizon.net

2. Please submit with your application a copy of:

- Your mission statement: *"Building Community with Uprooted People to Serve the Common Good"*
- 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 _____ \$14,300 _____

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

6. Your other funding source(s) _____ Individuals and Congregations and events _____

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) _____ *Ruth H. Bersin* _____ Date _____ August 29, 2014 _____

Printed Name/Title _____ The Rev. Ruth H. Bersin, Ph.D., Executive Director _____

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. Only electronic submissions will be accepted.



Refugee Immigration Ministry is requesting funding from ABCUSA to assist with the development of Clusters. Clusters are groups of 10-15 volunteers from 3-10 participating congregations in a given community. The Clusters work with arriving asylum seekers, who have no other support as they enter our communities. Clusters work under the supervision and direction of RIM's professional Case Managers. Clusters engage members of congregations in providing housing, food, transportation and social support. Once work authorization is received, by the client, the Clusters and RIM staff assist clients with employment and a plan which leads toward self-sufficiency.

RIM currently has 5 Clusters which work with 20 clients per year. The demand is growing and new Clusters are needed. Currently Clusters are in Chelmsford, Metro North, Metro West, North Shore and Cambridge. Baptist Churches are involved in Chelmsford (First Baptist Chelmsford and First Baptist, Lowell); Cambridge (Old Cambridge Baptist Church); in Metro North (First Baptist, Malden); in Metro West (First Baptist, Millbury). These Clusters have been working on an interfaith collaborative basis, which is enriching for everyone, for over 15 years. Their success is seen in the achievements of the former clients who are now working in their own fields (medicine, dentistry, hightech, international marketing) and have long been self-sufficient.

Clients readily state that the difference for them is in the support they received, from Cluster members, upon arrival. They are eager to participate in the programs and ready to "give-back." Likewise, many members of congregations have stated that this is one of the most enriching ministries they have ever done. They feel the opportunity to share cultural gifts (food, music) are very exciting. Hearing the stories, learning about issues in other cultures and making friends which continue long after the clients are independent is enriching for congregations and volunteers. This participating heightens awareness of issues and brings people into other ministries to feed the hungry, assist the homeless, visit the sick and it is foundational for social action and justice in the community.

Thank you for the opportunity to apply for this funding. We expect to develop new Clusters in the following locations: Newton, Concord, Haverhill, Waltham, and either Quincy or Belmont. In these locations we will draw upon participation from TABCOM congregations. This effort will be led by Rev. Isaac Seelam who works with RIM in a partnership with TABCOM. He is responsible for congregational development for RIM. In Newton we are already working with them to provide ESOL training and in Waltham, the Baptist pastor has assisted with the initial discussions. The fund we are requesting will be used to stimulate fund raising in these new Clusters. We will also make the fund known through our publicity in each location.

RIM is requesting \$5000 from the ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant which would be used to help create new Clusters and boost productivity of current Clusters by providing six \$800 match grants to launch fund raising for 5 new Clusters and one current Cluster. The additional \$200 would be used to promote Cluster development through publicity and bulletin inserts.

Clusters have each raised about \$8,000 per year. The volunteer efforts of Clusters is equivalent to one FTE per Cluster (\$35,000). The donated goods are about \$10,000 in value. This means that each Cluster contributes about \$53,000 per year, The cost of staffing and providing Case Management is: \$10,000. In addition, the cost for start up of a Cluster is about \$5000 in staff time.

Cluster Budget:

Expenses:

Rent	4800 per client unit	15,000
Utilities	1200	3,600
Transportation	840	2,620
Furnishings	Donated	
TOTAL		21,220

Income:

Congregations	5,000
Individuals	5,000
Sales	6,200
Events	5,020
TOTAL	21m220

Staffing:

Case Management:	2200	6600
Cluster Guidance	2500	2500
Start up Costs for New Clusters		5,000
Publicity for new Clusters		200
TOTAL		14300

Income:

Individuals	6,000
Congregations	8,100
ABCUSA	200
	14,300

Request to ABCUSA

\$4,800 for a match grant in starting with new Clusters \$800 x 6 new Clusters = \$4800.

200 for publicity to create new Clusters

Total \$5,000.

How Matthew 25 ABCUSA Grant will be used for clients:

There are currently 5 Clusters: Cambridge, Chelmsford/Lowell, Metro North (Malden, Melrose, Medford, and Wakefield), Metro West (Millbury, Milford, and Hopkinton) and North Shore (Beverly, Topsfield, Hamilton and Boxford). Each Cluster has its own account which is spent only on clients. Generally, the budget works as follows: (Green is from the grant). The black is further explanation. In the next few months, RIM is planning to build new Clusters in: Concord, Haverhill, Waltham, and possibly Quincy, Newton, or Framingham

Cluster Budget:

Expenses:

Rent	4800 per client unit	15,000
Utilities	1200	3,600
Transportation	840	2,620
Furnishings	Donated	
TOTAL		21,220

Income:

Congregations	5,000
Individuals	5,000
Sales	6,200
Events	5,020
TOTAL	21m220

The above is an average expense for clusters with the source under income. The rent may vary from \$725 per month to \$325 per month depending upon the kind of arrangements which can be made. In some cases the Cluster is able to rent a room within a home or a client finds a roommate to share expenses. The average is \$500.

The budget will include: utilities, transportation and also food. This varies depending upon use of food banks, donations, and gift cards. (average is \$250.—this is not included above.)

Cluster funds are in separate bank accounts for each Cluster and are allocated from the RIM office at the request of the Cluster committee. A budget is created with the Cluster representative, the client and the Case Manager. The funds are not co-mingled with operating costs or staff salaries.

The Request to ABCUSA

\$5,000 for a match grant in starting with new Clusters or to expand current Clusters.

200 for publicity to create new Clusters (This can be covered by other funds, leaving the entire \$5000 for clients.) **With this plan the entire \$5000 will be used for direct client expenses and the impact will be doubled, by having the Clusters raise matching funds. It will also encourage the participation of TABCOM congregations and give publicity to the Mathew 25 gift.**

Process: RIM will offer \$500-1000 as a match grant to new or expanding Clusters. The \$5000 would initially be in a Client Aid Fund and would be given to the Cluster when they raise the match grant. Thus all of the funds from ABCUSA would be for housing, transportation, and food for asylum seekers. (Asylum Seekers have no other source of support.)

Other funds will be provided to recruit new congregations; \$200 would be used from operating expenses for publicity materials and printing of fliers for the Match Grant Campaign with the Cluster. The process will also include coaching from staff in fund raising and in how to run a match grant campaign. The cost of this is not included in the \$5000, but is covered by other sources. RIM will report on the Match Grants achieved and supply pictures of the Cluster and the clients served.

