

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 **The Madison/Geneva Clothing Bank**

Affiliation with ABCUSA - **Co-sponsored by & housed in The United Church, an ABC-OH church**

Address **75 South Broadway Geneva OH 44077**

Phone (440) 466-2824 Federal Tax ID# 34-0785951

Contact person RAE JEAN BURGARD email RJBCWB@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. 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 \$5,000.00

5. Amount being requested from the ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant \$5000.00

6. Your other funding source(s) Community, local churches

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) Rae Jean Burgard Date 4-28-14

Printed Name/Title Rae Jean Burgard

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.



The Geneva-Madison Clothing Bank has been in operation since August 1984 and is coming upon its 30th anniversary. In the 30 years that they have been open they have assisted thousands of families with necessities such as shoes, coats, and personal hygiene items. Rae Jean Burgard oversees the efforts and volunteers her time to help members of the community and surrounding communities. They have an open door policy, and go through great lengths to accommodate the families that come there. The Clothing Bank is donation and volunteer based, with the only payment being the ability to give to others.

The Geneva-Madison Clothing Bank is currently working on implementing a few key programs. The shoe voucher program which commences in August, kids will receive a voucher for twenty dollars that can be used towards the purchase of a pair of shoes. The coat giveaway program which commences in November, kids will receive either a coat or a twenty dollar voucher to be used towards the purchase of a coat. Personal hygiene kits containing shampoo, conditioner, soap, deodorants, toothbrushes, and toothpaste will be given out to families in August along with the shoe vouchers.

The Geneva-Madison Clothing Bank is currently doing their best to assist approximately twenty families a week. These families count on the clothing bank to help with items that they are unable to buy. The clothing bank has been able to secure donations of new underwear and socks from stores in the community. With thirty percent of families in Ashtabula and Lake County living in poverty (US Census Bureau 2013), the clothing bank is expecting to see more families coming to them for assistance. They are currently one of the only volunteer based programs in the area that offers new shoes, coats, and necessities.

The proposed budget for these programs is \$5,000 which will be able to assist 100 children and families. The money will be utilized as follows: \$2,000 towards the shoe voucher program, equaling 100 vouchers at \$20 each: \$2,000 toward the coat program, equaling 100 vouchers at \$20 each: \$1,000 toward the personal hygiene kits, equaling 100 kits at \$10 each.

The \$5,000 would be greatly appreciated by the clothing bank, and the families it works hard to assist. 100 families is a great start to helping the thousands of families that need help. Poverty is an increasingly growing issue in these counties and it's necessary to keep programs such as the ones above alive. The children receiving the shoe vouchers will have the luxury of starting school with a new pair of shoes. The parents reaching out for assistance will once again have faith in humanity and their community.