

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 Urban Grace Church
Affiliation with ABCUSA (Check made payable to) See attached.
Mailing Address 902 Market Street, Tacoma, WA 98402
Phone 253-272-2184 Federal Tax ID# 91-0577139
Contact person Jennifer Dean email jdean@urbangracetacoma.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 \$ 5500

5. Amount being requested from the ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant \$ 5000

6. Your other funding source(s) Individual donors, various local churches/nonprofits

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) Jennifer Dean Date 8/28/15

Printed Name/Title Jennifer Dean, Director of Operations

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.



Affiliation with ABCUSA (Check made payable to): Urban Grace Church was First Baptist Church of Tacoma until 2005. We still have an affiliation with the Evergreen Association of American Baptist Churches. All checks should be payable to Urban Grace Church.

Mission Statement:
To DEVELOP and to BE a church in downtown Tacoma that serves the city and its people by proclaiming the Good News of God’s love, grace, and justice revealed in Jesus Christ.

Community Breakfast Program General Budget

| | | |
|---------------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Income | | |
| Individuals | \$ | 8,500.00 |
| Organizations | \$ | 500.00 |
| Other | \$ | 500.00 |
| TOTAL | \$ | 9,500.00 |
| Expenses | | |
| Food & Supplies | \$ | 8,500.00 |
| Community Outreach | \$ | 500.00 |
| Administration | \$ | 100.00 |
| TOTAL | \$ | 9,100.00 |
| NET DIFFERENCE | \$ | 400.00 |

Improvement Project Expenses

| | |
|----------------------|------------------|
| 3 basin sink | \$1500.00 |
| Paint floors | \$500.00 |
| Paint walls/cabinets | \$500.00 |
| Lighting | \$3000.00 |
| TOTAL | \$5500.00 |

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

Our location in downtown Tacoma provides us with the unique opportunity to minister to and provide services for a diverse community of people. Our central location also makes us easily accessible to those who are in need of the basic necessities of food, shelter, and clothing within our community. We believe that God compels us to enact a radical compassion within our city, for the Lord states that "If you spend yourselves on behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed then your light will rise in the darkness and your night will become like the noonday." *Isaiah 58:10*

We enact our desire to be a light within our city through the provision of various services and programs. One such program is our Sunday morning Community Breakfast which celebrated 20 years of ministry this year. In spite of often limited funds and resources, we open our doors every Sunday morning to approximately 250+ people including adult men and women as well as many young adults and children. Our guests are hungry for sustenance and community. With a team of volunteers from our church and other churches in the area such as Peninsula Baptist and Grace Baptist, a free, hearty, and hot breakfast is served along with fellowship, conversation, and even songs led by one of the guests on occasion. During the colder months, we have often also provided donated blankets and socks to our guests. Throughout the year, volunteer groups collect items such as hygiene supplies, etc. that are also given out. Many of the breakfast guests also seek spiritual nourishment and attend our church's worship services as well.

The breakfast provides a rare opportunity to have so many homeless and low-income in one room, so we partner with local organizations to help resource individuals towards assistance from DSHS and other social service agencies from whom they can receive tools that can assist them in getting out of their current situation. We have recently formed a partnership with University of Washington-Tacoma in which a foot care clinic will be provided once per month to care for the serious foot needs of the homeless that are often wearing ill-fitting shoes and walking for hours on end.

Though a crucial program of our church, the Community Breakfast has never been a line item in our general church budget. The generous donations of church and community members as well as grants and bequests have kept this program running for over 20 years. Our coordinators are very frugal and food is frequently donated as well. There has not been a Sunday missed in 20 years due to lack of funding, but it has been tough at times.

Because the Community Breakfast Program uses most of its limited funds on food, we've had to make do with ageing equipment and space. Our church was built in 1925 and though we are very grateful for its "good bones," there are many areas of the church that desperately need updates. We are grateful for the generosity of donors and grants such as the ABCUSA Matthew 25 grant to help us start making some of these improvements over the past few years, particularly in our large kitchen and fellowship hall which the Community Breakfast program uses. We are slowly but surely getting our kitchen up to code but still have several projects to complete to meet the need.

In order to meet the health department code, we need to replace one of our single basin sinks with a three basin sink (for washing, rinsing, and sanitizing) so we can wash dishes by hand when needed. We also need to repaint the concrete kitchen floor with textured paint to provide better safety when spills happen, repaint the ageing and stained kitchen cupboards and walls, and improve the outdated and somewhat non-functioning lighting in our fellowship hall where we serve our breakfast guests.

Funds received from the ABCUSA Matthew 25 grant would be used to offset the costs of food and direct service supplies so that we can use other income to complete the above mentioned improvement plans. These projects would greatly increase our effectiveness and safety each Sunday and help us to sustain a ministry of hospitality, welcome, and resources in the coming months and years.

The Community Breakfast Program meets a vital need in our community. Since 1995, the amount of homeless and low income in Tacoma has increased, causing even more strain on local social service agencies. As a church, providing this one meal a week and giving people access to resources helps us to contribute to alleviating those in poverty in our neighborhoods. Over the years, a community of volunteers and guests has developed and many would call it a family. This program provides more than just food. Not only are our community partnerships providing resources to help alleviate poverty, but it gives volunteers a purpose beyond themselves and guests a dignity and fellowship of friends to come home to each week.