

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." The donor's primary concern is to help ameliorate poverty. ABCUSA will distribute grants of up to \$5,000 semi-annually as long as the generosity of this donor continues. A panel will select recipients 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.

1. General Information:

Organization Name: Massachusetts Baptist Multicultural Ministries
Affiliation with ABCUSA partner organization with TABCOM
Address 230 Herrick Rd., Newton Centre, MA 02459
Phone 781-457-8058 Federal Tax ID# 27-2782979
Contact Person Mar Imsong email mbmmin@gmail.com

2. Please submit with your application a copy of:

- Your mission statement
- Your most recent annual report or audited financial statement

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: \$4800 stipend for Refugees Advocate + \$2000 for healthy Snacks and Christmas Gift :Total \$6,800

5. Amount being requested from the ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant \$5,000.00

6. Your other funding source(s) MBMM will raised \$1800 from local donors and 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) Mar Imsong

Date 08-28-2013

Printed Name/Title Mar Imsong, 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 to:

Mission Resource Development
American Baptist Churches USA
P.O. Box 851
Valley Forge, PA 19482-0851
Or emailed to: Beth.Fogg@abc-usa.org



Mission Statement

Massachusetts Baptist Multicultural Ministries exists as an intentional ministry to celebrate diversity, provide hospitality to refugees and immigrant churches, guide ethnic pastors in the ordination process, facilitate cultural adjustments, provide appropriate support and assistance to refugees and immigrant communities, and create a platform for intra- and inter- cultural dialogue.

MASSACHUSETTS BAPTIST MULTICULTURAL MINISTRIES

2013 ANNUAL MEETING



June 28, 2013
Time: 4:30 PM

167 Prescott Street
Groton, MA

Agenda

I. Prayer and Devotion

II. Reports:

1. President's Report
2. Secretary's Report
3. Treasurer's Report
4. Executive Director's Report

III. Election of the Board of Directors

Ed Hoban
President

Massachusetts Baptist Multicultural Ministries, Inc.

President's Report

This past year has been a year of great accomplishments for MBMM, as the Board, the Advisory Board and our hard working staff continue to expand the vision of MBMM of "Weaving God's Love Across Cultures".

We have continued our work with ethnic pastors; our work with the refugee communities; expanded our partnering with other agencies and our work of strengthening the leadership within the various ethnic groups of our denomination. Our Annual Banquet, Multicultural Festival, Board Retreat and Advisory Board Meetings continue to enrich the overall experiences of MBMM.

We look forward to the coming year as we anticipate our first Intercultural Conference and the commissioning of our seven Intercultural Advocates.

Ed Hobart
President

Massachusetts Baptist Multicultural Ministries

Secretary's Annual Report 2012-13

The organization's year begins April 1, and ends March 31.

Board meetings (unless otherwise noted) were held during the past year as follows:

April 12, 2012 at the MBMM Office, Andover Newton Theological School
Fundraising Dinner and Auction at Lantana's in Randolph on May 11, 2012
June 21, 2012 at the First Baptist Church of Medford
A Multicultural Festival at Grotonwood on July 21, 2012
Board Retreat on September 14-15, 2012 at Oceanwood
Advisory Board meeting on November 10, 2012 at First Baptist Church of Westwood
January 24, 2013 at First Baptist Church of Bedford
March 14, 2013 at First Baptist Church of Medford

The officers had an executive board meeting in the summer of 2012 at a restaurant in Cambridge so that I could attend during my lunch hour.

In addition, during the summer, retreats were held for various ethnic church leaders: For Haitian pastors and lay leaders, for Portuguese pastors and lay leaders, and a one-day meeting for Hispanic pastors and lay leaders. There was an American Baptist Asian leader's conference in August 2012 held at the First Baptist Church of Waltham, which a number of board members attended.

The organization is a 501(c)(3) organization.

MBMM has developed covenants with Andover Newton Theological School, where its office has been located since the fall of 2010, and with The American Baptist Churches of Massachusetts, which needs to be updated. MBMM looks forward to having a covenantal partnership with other organizations as we move into the future.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Drauschke
Secretary

MBMM BUDGET 2013-2014

INCOME

Grants	236,600
Contributions	6,000
Congregations	3,500
Programs	28,900
TOTAL INCOME	275,000

EXPENSES

OPERATING ADMIN EXPENSES

Office Expenses	13,770
Staff Expenses	9,500
Consulting Expenses	10,500
Board Expenses	12,000
TOTAL OPER EXPENSES	45,770

MINISTRY EXPENSES

Refugee Ministry	8,800
MCM Festival	3,000
Inner City Ministry	1,000
New Chhurch Planting	5,500
Intercultural Ministry/Conf	53,100
Ethnic Church Relations	5,000
Intergenerational Ministry	16,000
TOTAL MINISTRY EXPENSES	92,400

SALARY EXPENSES

Admin & ED Salary & Benefits	136,827
TOTAL SALARY EXPENSES	136,827
TOTAL EXPENSES	274,997

MBMM TREASURERS REPORT FISCAL YEAR END 3/31/2013

INCOME	YEAR TO DATE	BUDGET
Grants & Other Income	178,000.00	178,000.00
Mass Baptist Charit Soc.	10,000.00	10,000.00
Membership	55.00	2,000.00
National Min Council	-	8,000.00
Other/Fundraising Dinner etc	17,285.45	8,000.00
ABHMS	3,000.00	4,000.00
Local Churches Donations	450.00	2,000.00
MBMM Product Sales	100.00	500.00
Other Income	28,691.17	557.00
Intercultural Conference	370.00	-
TOTAL INCOME	237,951.62	213,057.00
EXPENSES	YEAR TO DATE	BUDGET
Operating Admin Expenses	13,145.34	13,230.00
Staff Expenses	7,012.84	9,500.00
Consulting	3,927.08	5,000.00
Board Expenses	10,534.68	4,500.00
TOTAL OPERATING EXPNS	34,619.94	32,230.00
MINISTRY EXPENSES		
Refugee Ministry	13,002.07	6,500.00
MCM FESTIVAL	1,351.69	2,500.00
Inner City	581.06	2,000.00
New Church Planting	1,349.14	4,500.00
Ethnic Pstr & Lay Ldrs Retreat	2,835.36	8,000.00
Ethnic Church Relations	2,720.25	10,000.00
International Student Ministry	-	6,880.00
TOTAL MINISTRY EXPENSES	21,839.57	40,380.00
Salary Expenses	136,201.92	139,947.00
SUB TOTAL EXPENSES	192,661.43	212,557.00

MONEY MARKET TRANSFER	40,000.00	**
TOTAL EXPENSES	232,661.43	212,557.00

**

NOTE: The \$40000 balance in the Money Market Fund represents funds unused in 2012-2013

NET CASH ON HAND 3/31/13	92,601.28
--------------------------	-----------

Executive Director Report 2012-2013

MBMM is now three years old, and during that time we have met people from many countries and ethnic groups. MBMM exist to provide a platform for people from different cultures, ethnicities, nationalities, theologies and ideologies to have respectful conversations which widen their horizons of understanding. Thus, MBMM's work is idealistic, yet with a very practical approach. In three years what we learnt is that MBMM can never be an expert on multicultural ministry, but that we can be an effective medium that instills multicultural wisdom and knowledge. The goal of the ministry is to sensitize multiculturalism in communities and local churches. We all know the fast growing diversity in the American Baptist Churches USA and also in the United States.

The mission statement of MBMM is "Weaving God's Love across Cultures" and work in these three areas of ministries:

1. To recognize, minister, celebrate and affirm the record numbers of growth of the immigrant churches in the American Baptist Churches USA
2. To challenge the so-called "ethnic" churches, even including the Caucasian churches, to come out of their familiar and comfortable niche and relate with people from different cultures, ethnicities and nationalities.
3. To practice the ministry of hospitality of welcoming strangers and foreigners in our community and churches.

Soon MBMM realized that in order to work with different cultures and ethnic groups, each group need to be proud of who they are and affirm their ethnicities and identities because even in the Bible, the *eschaton* celebrates ethnic and cultural diversity. John, the author of the book of Revelation, affirms that even in the new heaven and new earth there will be people from every nation, tribe people and language before the Lamb of God. (Revelation 7: 9-10)

So the challenges become: how can people affirm their own ethnicities and nationalities, yet at the time same time celebrate diversities? It is in this paradox MBMM defines God's ordained cultural diversity.

For MBMM human beings create "culture" when we manipulate "nature." Culture is a product of nature. For instance beautiful houses where we have lived are created by manipulating various natural resources. Thus there is diversity of cultures that human beings create that suits different natural environments.

Yet the Bible also affirms that there are certain essential elements that all human beings share that is called in Latin "*imago dei*", the image of God. What is the image of God that we all share

despite all our cultural differences? What is the likeness of God? It is neither skin color nor human intellect.

MBMM believes that God is Love and Love is God. In the beginning Love existed in the triune nature of God the Father, God the Son and God the Spirit. That love could not be contained in the Triune nature of God, and it exploded and created the beautiful creation. On the sixth day God created human being in His likeness to love one another and love God. The purpose of the creation of the human being is defined as “to fill the earth.” Yet we see the urban cultural imperialism of trying to create a “universal” culture in the story of tower of Babel. Human beings tried to live with a common culture as opposed to the design of God “filling the earth.”

Later, in the Bible we see a clash of cultures with several invasions and competitions. The fallen human being defines culture by creating walls such as “I” versus “you” and “we” versus “them.” They create the boundaries and walls not only with fellow human beings but also with God in defining their identity and culture. God tried to restore those broken relationships by various means such as through covenants, judges, kings and prophets. Finally, for God’s love of the world, “God become flesh” the True Man in the person of Jesus Christ.

When Jesus the “True Man” lived on Earth he gave only one commandment “to Love one another as he has loved us”, to restore the true intention of God’s purpose of creating human beings. The humble effort of MBMM is to practice the commandment given by Jesus in our broken and divisive world by “Weaving God’s love across Cultures.” We implement the mission through the following programs:

- ❖ Help ethnic churches in establishing churches, such as negotiating with a host church to share their church building, offering guidance in obtaining an article of incorporation and insurance, etc.
- ❖ Guide ethnic pastors in receiving ordination standing in the ABCUSA
- ❖ Conduct workshops and one on one mentoring in cultural adjustments and leadership development.
- ❖ Form ethnic caucuses and conduct regular meetings for updates and sharing effective tips for ministry
- ❖ Launch five *Intercultural Ministry Teams* for practicing and learning intercultural ministry and providing financial support for their meetings.
- ❖ Appoint seven Cultural Advocates for African, African American, Asian, Caucasian, Haitian, Hispanic and Portuguese speaking, and provide monthly stipend and training for those advocates.

MBMM’s work is not only limited to the church, but also works in welcoming refugees as they begin their new life here in the United States. MBMM works with refugees in the following areas:

- ❖ Appoint Refugee advocates to work in different communities and provide monthly stipends for those advocates
- ❖ Provide assistance in obtaining household goods and furniture
- ❖ Conduct after-school tutoring classes for refugee children
- ❖ Provide case management service such as obtaining Social Security and Medicare benefits, guiding and providing transportation for medical appointments, helping with citizenship services such as biometrics, ESL, purchasing vehicles, driver's education, car insurance, opening a bank account, obtaining food stamps and other services related to transitional assistance
- ❖ Network with community organizations, including churches, police, school and city and town administrations
- ❖ Teach cultural adjustment, healthy lifestyles, safety and security
- ❖ Provide winter clothing and toiletries

The work of MBMM is very limited in comparison to the needs in the churches and community. The demographic changes in America indicate drastic growth in the minority ethnic community. However, religious institutions such as the church are yet to become an inclusive community. As a result new immigrant churches and communities, including the refugees' needs and their plight, are not recognized. MBMM, as an organization that advocates for the minority and suppressed groups, raises its prophetic voice to the mainline churches in America. However, it is important to note that MBMM's work is not limited to Christian communities. MBMM works with all cultures, ethnicities and religions. The work for the immigrant and refugee communities is a human problem. MBMM listens to the stories of immigrant communities and of refugee's experiences that are permeated by violence, danger, uncertainty and hardship, and at the same time introduces the new culture and opportunities to improve their experience in America.

MBMM is very thankful to the committed and passionate Board of Directors. Our President, Mr. Ed Hobart, has been instrumental in the formation of the organization, shaping and casting the vision and strategic planning. Pastor Roberto Paiva, the vice president, always brings new perspectives to be sensitive to need immigrant churches. Barbara Drauschke, secretary, has kept the organization intact and focused with her diligent record keeping. Richard Freeman, our treasurer, makes sure that MBMM books are accurate and transparent. MBMM is blessed to have Rev. Debora Jackson as our auditor, who brings her expertise in organizational management and guides us in a ministerial direction. Rev. Daniel Auguste, one of our charter Board members, has been one of the greatest advocates of multicultural ministries among the Haitian ministers. Mr. Dexter Bishop has been a great asset for MBMM in implementing our work with the refugees. Mr. Weimen Feng translates the ideology of MBMM into practical implementation by setting achievable goals. Dan Nye, another practical man, brings meaning in implementing MBMM projects. Rev. Michael Harvey and Rev. Dr. Tony Pappas have been there from the inception of the organization. They have been helpful in developing synergy with the American Baptist Churches of Massachusetts and the Conference of Baptist Minister of Massachusetts. MBMM is

blessed to have a very committed Board of Directors and I am so thankful to all of them for their involvement in ministry, guidance and wisdom.

I will be remiss if I do not acknowledge Ms. Twila Wanamaker, Administrative Assistant, who does all the work in organizing and administering the projects. I also would like to thank our Refugee advocates: Rev. Warren Jones, Ms. Khu Say, Mr. James S. Aung and Mr. Jeffrey Lian. They are the hands and feet of MBMM doing the grassroots work with the refugee communities. I also would like to welcome our seven cultural advocates: Rev. Ashlee Wiest-Laird, Rev. Fred Ulysses, Rev. Tali Jamir, Rev. Jackson R. Oliveira, Rev. John Bio Asante, Mr. Jerrell Riggins and Ms. Minarva Nino. MBMM is so fortunate to have this team that will help us transcend cultural and theological isolation to an ecumenical model of ministry, while at the same time strengthening each ethnic caucus.

I am also thankful to my wife Ben Imsong and my family who understand my absence during many family dinners and Sunday morning worship services. Thank you to all of you who have volunteered in many programs and events of MBMM. Finally, I thank our almighty God who sustains and strengthens me. I sincerely believe with Apostle Paul who said, "I can do everything with God who strengthened me." May God bless MBMM.

Respectfully Submitted

Mar Imsong

Executive Director

Report of the Nominating Committee
June 27, 2013
 (year term ends is in parentheses)

Officers

President	Mr. Edwin Hobart (2014)
Vice President*	Rev. Roberto Paiva (2015)
Secretary*	Mrs. Barbara Drauschke (2015)
Treasurer*	Mr. Richard Freeman (2015)
Auditor	Rev. Dr. Debora Jackson (2014)

Board of Directors

Rev. Daniel August*	(2015)
Mr. Dexter Bishop	(2014)
Mr. Weimin Feng	(2014)
Mr. Daniel Nye	(2014)
(Vacancy)	(2015)

Ex-Officio Members

Rev. Dr. Tony Pappas, Representative from TABCOM

Rev. Michael Harvey, Representative from the Conference of Baptist Ministers

***To be voted on**

Respectfully submitted: Nominating Committee
Mr. Edwin Hobart
Mrs. Barbara Drauschke



Massachusetts Baptist Multicultural Ministries

Project: MBMM After-School Program for Refugees in Lowell, Massachusetts

The requested funds from the Matthew 25 Grant will be used to assist the MBMM After-School Program for Refugees in Lowell, MA, specifically Bhutanese and Burmese refugee children and their families. MBMM uses space provided by the Cambodian Mutual Assistance in Lowell and conducts after-school tutoring on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm and on Saturdays from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon. The project is supervised by MBMM Refugee Advocate James SiSi Aung. Volunteers have been recruited from churches, Nashoba Valley Technical High School in Westford, and the University of Massachusetts Lowell. They come on separate days to help with the project. We average 20 students on each day with at least 6 volunteers and the MBMM Refugee Advocate. An MBMM Cultural Advocate is also trained to be the liaison between parents and the school.

The after-school coaching addresses education and cultural adjustment of newly arrived refugees, assisting refugee students to integrate into their schools and communities. It provides tutorials, high school completion activities, school readiness, and enrichment activities, and typically combines academic support (help with school projects and homework, standardized test preparation, etc.) with fun and enjoyable activities, such as indoor/outdoor sports, dance and photography classes, and creative writing workshops. In addition, job/internship search and college application assistance are provided. The program also includes interpreters to assist communication between refugee parents, teachers, and school administrators, such as for parent-teacher conferences, etc. It fosters enhancement of parent involvement in the education of their children through parent liaison, outreach, and education.

MBMM provides a monthly stipend of \$400.00 to a Refugee Advocate. This funding will end in March 2014. Any additional funding will enable us to continue the employment of the MBMM Refugee Advocate in Lowell, the key person who coordinates volunteers and promotes advocacy for the well-being of the refugee. It would also enable us to provide healthy snacks and fun activities to the refugee children. Additional funding would be used to purchase winter clothes and boots given to the refugee children as Christmas gifts.