

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 MZ Community Corporation, Inc.
Affiliation with ABCUSA Mount Zion Baptist Church
Address 208 Broadway
Newark, NJ 07104
Phone 973-482-1915 Federal Tax ID# 80-09-392-34
Contact person Dr. Theresa C. Dawson email theresacharlene@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 \$5,000

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

6. Your other funding source(s) Private Donations

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) Theresa C. Dawson Date March 1, 2015

Printed Name/Title Theresa C. Dawson/President

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



Annual Report of
MZ Community Corporation, Inc.

Formed through Mount Zion Baptist Church, a 137-year-old church with a rich history of community servitude, MZ Community Corporation's mission is to serve the residents of Newark, New Jersey and its surrounding communities in ways that contribute to societal wholeness and familial health as it relates to educational, physical, financial, and emotional needs.

The Matthew 25 grant funds will be utilized for the following:

MZ Community Corporation, Inc., located at 208 Broadway, Newark, New Jersey, in partnership with and on behalf of Mount Zion Baptist Church is seeking the Matthew 25 grant from ABCUSA to fund upgrades for its free Food Pantry for needy families. The purpose of the grant is to purchase commercial refrigeration equipment to increase food storage capacity and to purchase more food for distribution, to purchase bagging supplies for the Food Pantry, as well as defraying transportation costs associated with food pick up and delivery to the Food Pantry.

The Lower Broadway neighborhood where Mount Zion Baptist Church's Food Pantry is located has a high concentration of poverty. According to the 2010 census, Mount Zion Baptist Church is located in an area where the poverty rate for families is 31.0% and for families with children 40.7%. The unemployment rate is 19.3%. Additionally the Food Pantry serves many persons who are homeless.

Our proposal is for \$5,000 with the following breakdown: \$1,500 of the grant to be allocated toward commercial equipment upgrades (e.g. commercial refrigeration). We propose \$2,500 be allocated for the purchase of additional food. \$500 will be allocated for the purchase of Food Pantry supplies (i.e. plastic bags and storage containers). With the final \$500 allocated toward the monthly truck rental to pick up food purchased from the Community Food Bank. These funds will assure increased food distribution to some of the most vulnerable within the community.

Allocations made possible through this \$5,000 grant will allow increased efforts to acquire nutritious, supplemental food for needy families and individuals in the Newark and expanding throughout New Jersey. Food distribution includes perishable (fresh and frozen) and non-perishable food items.

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As recipients of the Matthew 25 Grant, MZ Community Corporation Inc., desires to increase food distribution through Mount Zion Baptist Church's monthly free Food Pantry which exemplifies Deuteronomy **15:11** that says, "For the poor shall never cease out of the land: therefore I command thee, saying, Thou shalt open thine hand wide unto thy brother, to thy poor, and to thy needy, in thy land". Currently, through this monthly outreach, Mount Zion serves over 1,200 people at no cost to recipients and with 85% of the individuals having no affiliation with the church. Many times the Food Pantry has been forced to close early because the food supply was depleted and those in need had to be turned away. The Matthew 25 grant would enable Mount Zion Baptist Church to be an even greater blessing to the community it has so faithfully served for decades.



The mission of MZCC is to serve the residents of Newark and its surrounding communities in ways that contribute to societal wholeness and familial health as it relates to educational, physical, financial, and emotional needs. It will seek to fulfill this purpose through educational opportunities, employment training, mental health support, life skills training, resource sharing, and recreational events.