

ABCUSA MATTHEW 25 GRANT APPLICATION - 2017



A generous donor has given a sum of money through American Baptist Churches USA Office of the General Secretary, 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. Awards will be granted only to ministries of an American Baptist church in good standing with their Region. This is a change from previous grant cycles. We will no longer award grants to organizations affiliated with churches such as a cooperative group that includes non-ABC churches; applications must be submitted by an ABC church for work being done directly by that church.

Only one application per church will be considered within a 24-month period. Because this change was made following the Fall 2016 cycle, recipients of a Spring 2016 grant are eligible to apply.

Grant funds may not be used to fund staff positions, rainy day funds, church benevolent funds, regular ongoing church operating expenses (i.e. utilities, insurance), repairs, or for capital improvements to facilities. Grant awards will be sent to the ABC church that is applying for the grant; checks will not be made payable to an individual or ministry.

Tab through the document to fill in all the fields below.

1. Applicant Information

Name of Church: Primera Iglesia Bautista de Humacao

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 93 , Humacao, P.R.00792

Phone: 787 285-5843

Federal Tax ID#: SSN 660-74-2331

Name of Region: Puerto Rico

Contact person (person completing this form): Madeline Morales Cintrón

Email of contact person: abriendonuevosurcos@gmail.com

Does your church contribute to United Mission? ☒Yes ☐No

Have you previously been awarded an ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant? ☒Yes ☐No

If so, have you submitted your report on the use of the funds? ☒Yes ☐No

2. What ministry or group will use these funds?

Centro de Servicios Abriendo Nuevos Surcos

3. Specifically, how do you plan to use the requested funds?

Please include a very brief and specific statement on how the money will be spent. For example: to purchase school supplies for 100 elementary school children; to provide summer camp scholarships for 10 children from low-income families; purchase diapers and wipes for single mothers. You are encouraged to attach a longer description (no more than one page) of the ministry or project.

Our Center “Abriendo Nuevos Surcos” (Open New Grooves) propose utilize the grant to continue the work of our food bank by purchasing of non perishable foods and supplement drinks for distribution. Also, as part of our work we identified other needs. So we propose to purchase with the grant a supply of diapers (adults), some hygiene items as articles for personal use and domestic use items for cleaning purposes.

4. How will the funds assist individuals battling poverty and its effects? What impact do you hope to make on the target group or community?

We are facing a growing need for help, including food, in the community as result of Puerto Rico financial crisis. Poverty has remained the same and the pace of economic growth has fallen. Without Matthew 25 funds from 2016 up to June 2017 the food bank have benefited 251 families. We hope with Mathew 25 Funds to reach out more families and in a better way than now because of our lack of resources.

5. Total cost of the project: \$12,220.00
6. Amount being requested from the ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant: \$5,000.00
7. List other funding source(s): \$2,000.00
8. Please submit along 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.

By submitting this application on behalf of (church name) Primera Iglesia Bautista de Humacao, I certify that all the information submitted with this application is true and correct. We agree to use and/or disburse any grant funds awarded for the sole purpose as described within this application. We will supply a 1-page report on the use of the funds and a photo/photos within six months of receipt of the grant.

Application submitted by (name of person): Madeline Morales Cintrón (your name typed here is your electronic signature)

Date:

Please note:

- Incomplete applications will not be considered.
- Recipients agree to share their stories via the ABCUSA website.
- Application deadline September 1. Grants will be distributed no later than October 15.
- Only electronic submissions of completed applications and supporting documents will be accepted. Completed applications should be sent via email to Tina.Turner@abc-usa.org.
- Please review the instructions that follow and initial at the bottom to indicate you have read this information.

Instructions and information for completing the 2017 ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant application

1. General information

Awards will be granted only to ministries of an American Baptist church in good standing with their Region. This is a change from previous grant cycles. We will no longer award grants to organizations affiliated with churches such as a cooperative group that include non-ABC churches; applications must be submitted by an ABC church in good standing.

When determining Grants awards, the following criteria will be considered: whether the church is in good standing within the region; whether the church contributes to United Mission; number of and amounts of previous Matthew 25 Grants received; sustainability of ministry beyond Matthew 25 Grant funding; description of ministry and needs addressed by funding; and the budget submitted along with this application.

Checks will be made payable to the church. Checks will not be made to an individual or ministry.

3. Specifically, how do you plan to use the requested funds?

Briefly describe what will be purchased with the grant funds if awarded. Be specific with the expected use of these funds. This should be a very short and specific statement on where the money will be spent, do not include a lengthy narrative of the ministry project.

You are encouraged to provide a longer description of the ministry but this additional information must be limited to no more than one page in length and submitted as an attachment.

Please note that grant funds may not be used to fund staff positions and salaries, for capital improvements to church facilities, to pay for regular ongoing church operating expenses (i.e. utilities, insurance) or repairs, or to maintain a "Rainy Day fund" or church benevolent fund.

4. How will the funds assist individuals battling poverty and its effects?

Describe how the Matthew 25 grant funds will benefit those less fortunate. What effect and impact do you hope to have on individuals battling poverty or the community you are hoping to serve?

5. Total cost of the project

List the total amount of this project or ministry need.

6. Amount being requested from the ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant.

One application per church will be considered per 24 month period. Because this change was made following the Fall 2016 grant cycle, applicants who received funding in Spring 2016 are eligible to apply for the Fall 2017 grant cycle. The maximum amount awarded is \$5,000. If you have previously been a Matthew 25 grant recipient, you must have submitted a follow-up report in order to be eligible to reapply.

7. Your other funding source(s).

List all other sources providing funding for this ministry.

8. Please submit with your application a copy of:

- Your mission statement

Include as an attachment a copy of the church or ministry's mission statement.

- A financial statement for this ministry

This budget or projected budget must include itemized expenses and income for the ministry applying for the Matthew 25 grant funding. Church budgets are not acceptable.

Other information and requirements

By submitting an application,

- You certify that all information submitted is true and correct;
- You agree to use and/or disburse any awarded grant funds for the sole purpose as described within this application;
- You agree to supply a one page report on the use of funds and a photo/photos within six months of receipt of the grant;
- You give ABCUSA permission to share your story via the ABCUSA website or newsletter;
- You give ABCUSA permission to use the photograph(s) submitted for printing and/or posting.

I have reviewed the instructions provided. (initial here)

Your typed name and initials are your electronic signatures on this document.

Mission Statement

The First Baptist Church of Humacao is located at the east area of Puerto Rico and has focused the ministerial strengths toward evangelization, internal and external mission and to attend the needs inherent to the community of this region, in order to who God's mercy. In 2010 we develop the Center "Abriendo Nuevos Surcos" (Open New Grooves), whose mission is contribute to the strenghtening of the family and community by providing support and coordination of serves to promote the individual, family and community wellness of our country. The personnel that provide services are volunteers. The services are free of charge.

Our church has a food bank that has been in service since 2006. Once our center Abriendo Nuevos Surcos opened, the food bank became part of our tasks. We also provide second hand clothing. The Center serves the family and community where we are located, and the population referred by Humacao municipality offices, other agencies and organizations in Humacao and bordering towns.

BUDGET	GRANT	CONTRIBUTIONS	INKIND	Project
Grand Total				
STAFF				
Interviewers	- 0 -	- 0 -	\$5,220.00	
Supplies				
Food Donations		\$1,000.00		
Food & Nutritional	\$3,600.00			
Supplements	\$1,400.00			
Articles for personal use				
Others				
Facilities and		\$ 600.00		
Storage		\$ 400.00		
Responsibility				
Insurance				
Sub-Total	\$5,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$5,220.00	\$12,220.00

Plan to use the requested funds:

We are facing a growing need for help, including food, in the community as result of Puerto Rico financial crisis: unemployment, reduction of work hours and increase in taxes among others. A study done by Building Human Services Research Partnerships in Puerto Rico in collaboration with Interamerican University of Puerto Rico (UIPR) and published in September 2016 by the press revealed that the pace of poverty reduction is stopped. Poverty has remained the same and the pace of economic growth has fallen.

Twenty six percent of our people have completed High School Studies, 28% have less than twelve years of education, but 46% have a postsecondary education. Even though, 88% have earnings less than \$30 thousands per year. In last years, an increasing number of puertorricans have move outside the island mostly to the United States looking for jobs. Puerto Rico has a work problem and inequality. There is a collapse in the labor market by economic stagnation that keeps the poor people poor and pushes toward the poverty those who are a little above that margin.

Our country has an increasingly elderly population; every three persons are over 50. Most of the elderly population is low income with no earnings, Social Security or retirement pension that barely covers their needs of housing, clothing, food and medical expenses.

The statistics of the Federal Program Assistance for Nutrition (PAN) by municipalities reveals that at November 2014, at least 36% of the population of Puerto Rico municipalities receives benefits of PAN. The faces of the families receiving PAN are low income women heads of household with children and elders with low income. Despite of PAN benefits over 500,000 individuals suffers hungry in Puerto Rico and the Food Bank of P.R. and non-profit organizations covers only 110,000 people with emergency food supplies for a few days.

U.S. Census 2010 data reveals that 45% of Puerto Rico population is below poverty level and for Humacao it is the 43% of the municipality residents. Also, the U.S. Census data reveals that east and central zone of Puerto Rico register the highest poverty level, so the access to work, health, education and housing of the people is limited.

Although our supplies are limited, the Center food bank is still blessing many families and some homeless and older adults. Keeping in mind the needs of the population served, our Center "Abriendo Nuevos Surcos" (Open New Grooves) propose utilize the grant to continue the work of our food bank by purchasing of non perishable foods and supplement drinks for distribution. Also, as part of our work we identified other needs. So we propose to purchase with the grant a supply of diapers (adults), some hygiene items as articles for personal use and domestic use items for cleaning purposes.