

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 described above. The applying ministry must be directly affiliated with American Baptist Churches USA to be eligible to submit an application. Only one application per church or region will be considered within a 24-month period. Grant funds may not be used to fund staff positions, rainy day fund, church benevolent fund, or for capital improvements to facilities. Grant awards will be sent to the ABC church or Region 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 or Region: First Baptist Church of Omaha

Mailing Address: 421 Park Avenue/Omaha, Nebraska/68131

Phone: 402-345-5009

Federal Tax ID#: 47-0402356

Region: American Baptist Churches of Nebraska (ABC/NE)

Contact person (person completing this form): Jeri Shelor

Email: jshelor1@cox.net

Affiliation with American Baptist Churches USA:

☒ Church

☐ Region

☐ Other, please explain

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?

First Baptist Church of Omaha - Ministry of Evangelism and Community Outreach

If this application is being submitted on behalf of another organization or ministry, you agree to be the fiscal agent for any grant funds awarded. (please initial)

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 to single mothers. You are encouraged to attach a longer description (no more than one page) of the ministry or project. Provide hygiene items once a month for a year, 4 meals including a special Christmas meal, and 225 \$5.00 restaurant gift cards/food vouchers to a local grocery store to people living in poverty.

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?

The funds will provide meals and hygiene items to individuals who are living in poverty or struggling to make ends meet. We would like to share God's love by providing for some of their physical needs and welcoming them into the church each week.

5. Total cost of the project: \$4,725

6. Amount being requested from the ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant: \$4,725

7. List other funding source(s): Other churches or organizations will provide the meals and meal supplies for the rest of the year.
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/region/organization name) First Baptist Church of Omaha, 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): Jeri Shelor (your name typed here is your electronic signature)

Date: 09/01/2016

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 ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant application

1. General information

Applicants must be a recognized ABC church, Region office or organization directly affiliated with an ABC organization such as ABCUSA, ABHMS and IM.

An ABC church or region may submit an application for a ministry they are supporting. If a grant is awarded, the church or region assumes fiscal responsibility for the use of these funds.

Checks will be made payable to the ABC church, region or affiliated organization. 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 and not include a 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.

Please note that grant funds may not be used to fund staff positions and salaries, for capital improvements to church facilities, 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 or region will be considered per 24 month period. 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 specific 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) JS

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

First Baptist Church of Omaha

Matthew 25 Grant Proposal

Community Meal Program

First Baptist Church of Omaha (FBCO) is located in a neighborhood that is starting to undergo renovation. A new apartment building recently went up across the street, old buildings are being torn down with plans to be rebuilt, and others are already in the process of being rebuilt. In the shadows of these modern apartment buildings, people continue to live in poverty. As old buildings are being torn down, people are being forced to leave their homes and some have no place to live. Renovation many times comes with a price. For people living in poverty, it is a life changing event that many have a difficult time recovering from. For FBCO, renovation can be both exciting and heartbreaking. It is exciting with the prospect of modern buildings, new members, new surroundings, and new souls to win for Christ. It is heartbreaking with the thought of our neighbors who are living in poverty, many without homes. Their homes might not have been great but they provided shelter from the weather and a place to sleep. Our congregation firmly believes God continues to have a mission and a purpose for FBCO and we are committed to sharing God's Word and living the gospel here in Midtown Omaha. We feel this is exemplified in our Vision Portfolio which is provided in Attachment A.

The demographics of our neighborhood are slowly starting to change but poverty, hunger, and desperation are still very widespread. The US Census Bureau's 2014 American Community Survey shows 46.3% of the people living in our neighborhood were living below the poverty level. Please see Attachment C.

We currently have an outreach program called the Community Meal. A free meal is served on Saturdays for the people of our neighborhood and anyone else who needs a meal. The meal is promoted on our marquee so that people who pass by know they can get a hot meal on Saturdays. The Community Meal is held at FBCO and hosted by a different church or organization each week. There are churches and organizations that are located within the neighborhood and some that come from other areas. A free food pantry was also provided on Saturdays for our guests for a while. A couple of months ago, we ran into some challenges with transporting the food on Saturdays and there was no place to store the food so the food pantry is no longer available. A new program was implemented on a trial basis where hygiene items were distributed once a month. The hygiene items include toilet paper, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, soap, shampoo, and other necessities. Most people take these items for granted but for many of our guests, these items are luxuries they cannot afford. The people were very receptive to the new program which was funded by personal donations. Since the trial worked well, we would like to start the program on a permanent basis.

The attendance for the Community Meal is usually around 75 to 100 people for the first couple of weeks during the month and it increases the last couple of weeks. This year one of our goals is to have a heightened awareness of the Community Meal in the neighborhood which will hopefully result in an increase in attendance. Our plan is to canvas the neighborhood in the fall and hand out flyers inviting people to the Community Meal. The guests not only receive a free meal but they are also able to relax in a safe environment that is protected from the weather. The volunteers are also good about visiting with the guests and some of our guests look forward to those conversations each week.

We would like to provide a special meal the week before Christmas. Many of our guests don't have families so we would like to celebrate Christmas with them. It would be held at the same time as the Community Meal. We would also like to hand out a \$5.00 restaurant gift card or food voucher to a local grocery store to each guest as a gift. This would provide one additional meal for them during the holidays which is a difficult time for people who are living in poverty. It is especially heartbreaking for families with children.

The funds from the Matthew 25 grant would be used to provide hygiene items once a month, four meals including a special Christmas meal, and 225 \$5.00 gift cards to a local restaurant or vouchers to a local grocery store. Please see Attachment B for the budget for the Community Meal Program.

God is working miracles every day in our neighborhood and FBCO is blessed to be a part of His Ministry in this community. We want to show our neighbors they are treasured human beings who are dearly loved by God.

Thank you for considering our grant proposal for the Community Meal Program at First Baptist Church of Omaha. We appreciate this opportunity.

**First Baptist Church of Omaha
Matthew 25 Grant Proposal
Community Meal Program
Attachment A
Vision Portfolio**

The FBCO Vision Portfolio is provided below.

Mission

"We exist to equip people to live out the gospel in everyday life, loving God, loving all people, in midtown Omaha and beyond."

Vision

"Living the Gospel in Midtown and Beyond"

Slogan

"Living the Gospel"

Image



Logo



The FBCO Mission Theme for 2016 is provided below.

Mission Theme

"We Proclaim Christ!"

First Baptist Church of Omaha
Matthew 25 Grant Proposal
Community Meal Program
Attachment B
Projected Budget

Community Meal Program Budget		Cost
Meals (3 meals at \$200 per meal)		\$600
Special Christmas Meal		\$300
Hygiene Items (1 week per month at \$225 per month)		\$2,700
Restaurant Gift Cards/Food Vouchers to Local Grocery Store (225 at \$5.00 each)		\$1,125
Total		\$4,725

**First Baptist Church of Omaha
Matthew 25 Grant Proposal
Community Meal Program
Attachment C
Poverty Statistics**

Age Group	Tract 40 (Includes FBCO)			Douglas County (Includes Tract 40)			Tract 40 % of Douglas County	
	Total	Living Below Poverty Level		Total	Living Below Poverty Level		Total	Living Below Poverty Level
		#	% of Total		#	% of Total		
Total Population	2,863	1,325	46.3%	519,190	76,173	14.7%	0.6%	1.7%
Under 18 Years	501	371	74.1%	134,772	27,320	20.3%	0.4%	1.4%
18 To 64 Years	2,122	895	42.2%	328,161	44,430	13.5%	0.6%	2.0%
65 Years And Older	240	59	24.6%	56,287	4,423	7.9%	0.4%	1.3%

Additional information

Data was obtained from the US Census Bureau's American Community Survey

Source: 2010-2014 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

Link: <http://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml>

First Baptist Church of Omaha (FBCO) is located in Tract 40 which is a subset of Douglas County