

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: Henderson Memorial Baptist Church

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 147, Farmington, ME 04938

Phone: 207-778-2163

Federal Tax ID#: 01-6026693

Region: ABCOM

Contact person (person completing this form): Rev. Dr. Susan Crane

Email: hmbcpastor@outlook.com

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?

The Diaconate of the Henderson Memorial Baptist Church (HMBC), through its Fellowship Fund. The Fellowship Fund Treasurer will pay the landlords by check, upon approval of the applications forwarded to the Pastor by the Shelter Director, on behalf of the individual or family graduating from the shelter and moving into independent housing.

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.

The Matthew 25 grant funding will be used by the HMBC Diaconate is to provide Security Deposits of up to \$500 for any guest of the WMHO Shelter ready to graduate and move into housing they can pay for themselves. Security Deposits are paid directly to the landlord, only after the shelter graduate has applied for Matthew 25 with the help of a staff member at the Western Maine Homeless Outreach Shelter in Farmington. Graduates are followed for a year by a trained Navigator who visits monthly to make sure the graduates are fulfilling their obligations as independent residents of the community. Only shelter guests referred by WMHO Shelter staff are considered for the program. Landlords receive a letter with the check, explaining the program. If the tenants take good care of the rental unit and

decide to move on later, the landlord is instructed to return the Security Deposit to the tenant, not the church.

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?

Guests at the WMHO Shelter are sometimes individuals and often local families, who have fallen on hard times, due to unemployment, lay-offs, or medical emergencies, which prevented them from working. Without the extra money to pay a security deposit, they are unable to obtain housing. Even if they have employment or a subsidized housing voucher, it could take many months to save up enough money for the Security Deposit. By then that rental unit is no longer available, since affordable housing is in short supply here and most of it gets rented to university students. Landlords are reluctant to rent to the formerly homeless, as it is. Having the security deposit paid by this program, and knowing the guest will be receiving visits from a Navigator for the first year, is encouraging landlords to take the risk and provide housing to WMHO Shelter graduates.

The Matthew 25 Housing Assistance Program removes the biggest obstacle to shelter graduates becoming self-sustaining by opening the door to a new place to live. This, in turn, means guests need not extend their stay at the shelter any longer than necessary and frees up more beds at the 16-bed WMHO Shelter, where there is always a waiting list. It also provides the shelter graduates with the affirmation of our church as their community partner in becoming successful.

Photos and stories of shelter graduates achieving independent housing and success as self-sustaining members of the community will be submitted in a follow-up report along with an accounting of the use of funds at six-month intervals. The inclusion of photos is subject to recipients signing a release form (attached), but many do not, due to privacy concerns for their children.

5. Total cost of the project: \$4500
6. Amount being requested from the ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant: \$2500
7. List other funding source(s): HMBC Fellowship Fund, which is supported by HMBC members through a monthly Communion Offering: \$500. Ecumenical partner churches will also be invited to donate \$500 to the Fellowship Fund for Matthew 25 Security Deposits, as needed. HMBC has been an active member of the Farmington Area Ecumenical Ministry (FAEM) for many years and is a trusted partner in alleviating poverty for people in need through other programs FAEM operates collaboratively. FAEM and its member churches was instrumental in starting the WMHO Shelter in 2013 and continues to support its mission "to encourage families to become self-sustaining."
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) Henderson Memorial Baptist Church, 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): Susan E. Crane (your name typed here is your electronic signature)

Date: 08/30/2016

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.
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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) SEC

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