

# 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: Ramapo Valley Baptist Church

Mailing Address: 150 Franklin Avenue, Oakland, NJ 07436

Phone: 201-337-6665

Federal Tax ID#: 222-551-067/000

Region: ABCNJ

Contact person (person completing this form): Ellis L. Marples

Email: elmarples@gmail.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?

Growing healthy nutritious food to feed the poor

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) ELM

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.

We grow garden vegetables and provide them to feed the poor

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 providing healthy nutritious home grown food for the needy.

5. Total cost of the project: \$1700.00

6. Amount being requested from the ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant: \$1600.00

7. List other funding source(s): Just us

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) Ramapo Valley 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): Ellis L. Marples (your name typed here is your electronic signature)

Date: August 29, 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](mailto: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) ELM

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

## **Supplemental Information**

Ramapo Valley Baptist Church, Oakland, NJ

Page 1

### **3. Use of funds**

We have a small 20 feet by 20 feet vegetable garden located on the church property. We grow healthy nutritious food such as cucumbers, zucchini, peppers, tomatoes and parsley and donate them to the Center for Action Food Bank in Mahwah, NJ.

Our small church is in a semirural area and we have significant deer population. The deer are very adept at jumping our homemade fence and eating the vegetables.

We provide metal cones and some netting in a feeble attempt to protect the vegetables from the deer but they are clever when they are hungry and manage to consume much of our garden.

We would use the money specifically to purchase a deer proof 7 foot fence with a matching gate. This would allow us to provide much more home grown vegetables to supply additional food for the needy.

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

We provide generous amounts of healthy nutritious vegetables to help feed the poor.

### **Mission Statement on Feeding the Poor**

Ramapo Valley Baptist Church being fully aware that there are local people who cannot afford sufficient food for their needs and that Jesus instructed us to share our food with the poor has chosen to help feed these people by growing healthy nutritious garden vegetables.

~Isaiah 58:7 **Share your food with the hungry**, and give shelter to the homeless. Give clothes to those who need them, and do not hide from relatives who need your help.

### **Financial Statement for this Ministry**

This ministry consists of an Eagle Scout Project to build a 20 x 20 foot enclosure around a patch of land to create a garden. Within the garden are several rectangles created out of wood to create separate areas to grow specific vegetables. There is a 4 foot chicken wire fence around the area to attempt deter animals from eating the vegetables. However, there is a significant deer population and they easily leap over the fence and help themselves to the plants and food.

## Supplemental Information

Ramapo Valley Baptist Church, Oakland, NJ

Page 2

We spend \$20 a year to buy seeds and plant them. A local Girl Scout Troop helps to water and maintain the garden and pick the vegetables for distribution to the poor.

Financial Statement for Garden Project		
Seeds	\$20 / year	
Labor	donated	



Photo of one picking of the vegetables arranged on a table. We are able to pick vegetables several times a year similar to this one. This crop yield would multiple significantly without the animals eating many of the vegetables.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellis L. Marples

Ramapo Valley Baptist Church

150 Franklin Avenue

## **Supplemental Information**

Ramapo Valley Baptist Church, Oakland, NJ

Page 3

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