

ABC-USA
MATTHEW 25 GRANT APPLICATION
MCMINNVILLE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
MCMINNVILLE, OREGON 97128

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Organization Name: First Baptist Church McMinnville, Oregon
Affiliation with ABCUSA: Local Church
Mailing Address: 125 SE Cows Street, McMinnville, Oregon 97128
Phone: 503-472-7941

Federal Tax ID #: 93--390923

Contact person: Mike Burr
email: mjburr.mb@gmail.com

Does your church contribute to United Mission? Yes ☒ No ____
Have you previously been awarded an ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant? Yes ☒ No ____
(Last received in 2016)
If so, have you submitted your report on the use of the funds? Yes ☒ No ____

2. STAR Ministry (Serving Those Around Us, an expression of FBC Matthew 25 Mission)
3. Plans for requested funds—see attached
4. How fund will assist individuals—See Attached
5. Total cost of the project: \$14,520
6. \$4,000
7. Other funding source(s)

Give-a-little Foundation	\$300 monthly
First Federal Savings Bank	\$715 Annual
McMinnville Community Foundation	\$500 Annual
Individual donations	\$50-100 monthly
First Baptist Fellowship Fund	\$200+ monthly

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) Rev Michael Burr (retired)_____ Date August 29, 2018

Printed Name/Title

HOW FUNDS WILL ASSIST INDIVIDUALS BATTLING POVERTY

The Matthew 25 Grant funding will directly provide services in three areas and will indirectly support the provision of all of our services through continued existence of the program. The for the grant expenditure priorities will be food, laundry services, and transportation assistance.

FOOD—Through the provision of food we supply a basic necessity of life for our participants. On most of the days that we are open there are no other feeding programs available. For those living on the streets, this is one of their only options. For low income families it is often one of their only sources of protein for their children. In addition to the physical support, the meal time is also an important time of socialization and safety for a large portion of our participants.

Laundry—Through the provision of laundry cards, to be utilized at a local laundromat, we for a minimal degree of cleanliness which is necessary for health. If participants are to have any opportunity to find employment they must be able to be able to present themselves in an acceptable manner. Living on the streets and sleeping outside makes it difficult for a number of our folks to maintain even a minimum level of cleanliness and the provision of laundry cards ameliorates that condition. We currently are only able to provide limited assistance with cards and could easily double the service and still not address the need. We currently limit participants to one or two cards a month.

Transportation—Through provision of day passes for the local transit system we are able to assist participants in getting to important appointments. McMinnville is not a compact community and services are wide-spread. Transportation assistance is often needed to get to doctor appointments, probation hearings, and employment interviews. We again only have a limited number of passes available and must limit participants to one pass a month.

The overall focus of STAR is to assist our participants to develop and increase their capacity for independent living. This means developing better mental health, finding employment, and obtaining secure housing. We recognize that this is a one-term endeavor with most folks and our goal is to be a safe, steady, and secure resource that will partner with them as they move out of poverty and into self-sufficiency.

MISSION STATEMENT:
RADICAL HOSPITALITY AT FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, MCMINNVILLE OREGON

The STAR program is First Baptist Church's program, *Serving Those AROUND us*. The program began in December 2013 when the Official Board endorsed our plans and goals for the next three years. We are called to be a Matthew 25 church and goals and actions are guided by Jesus' words, "Whatever you do for the least of my sisters and brothers, you do for me." As needs have grown since the inception of the program, the scope and effectiveness of the program have also expanded as we've sought to respond to FBC's Planning and Implementation question which asks:

"Where are we being called to make God's presence accessible, available, visible, and understandable given the resources we have at hand and the audiences we are called to engage?"

The mission of the STAR Program is to follow the dictates of Matthew 25 and serve the neediest in our midst. To achieve that goal we have chosen to focus on:

- Providing food for the hungry
- Providing clothing for those without
- Seeking healthcare for those in need
- Providing shelter in emergency conditions
- Providing services to help individuals out of poverty
- Educating our community about poverty and homelessness in our midst
- Building coalitions of religious, governmental, and service organizations to address the issues within our community

STAR PROGRAM DESCRIPTION AND FUND UTILIZATION

The STAR Program plan for 2019 is to maintain the ministry as long as we can. In 2018 we have been supported by local community foundations as well as the Fellowship Fund of the church. We have still been depleting the FBC Fellowship Fund at the rate of \$250 to \$300 monthly while the need continues to expand. We continue to develop co-operation with churches and the broader community. The priorities for utilization of the grant are food, laundry cards, and bus passes (in that order). FBC resources are being stretched to the limit and for 2019 our intention is to adjust our services according to the budget that is available—seeking to do the most we can for the least of these sisters and brothers of ours.

The heart of the STAR program is the STAR room where we've offered breakfast every Monday and Friday since our inception in 2013. August of 2018 represents our 57th consecutive month of operation and through this time we've seen a gradual increase in the utilization of the program. We are now averaging about 60 persons per day. Our clientele include the chronically homeless due to addiction and/or mental illness, the under-employed not able to afford adequate housing, and families who might have housing but are unable to afford adequate nutrition. We will often have 5 to 8 children (most under the age of six), and 30-35% of attendees are women. As part of the STAR Room, we offer showers to a limited number of people (4 to 6). Our resources are constantly stretched as the numbers we serve gradually increase.

We've continued to recognize and advocate for the needs of what we call our "Courtyard Congregation" (CC) and have expanded our outreach. The downtown sector, which is two blocks away, has sought to push the homeless off of Main Street so they now are utilizing our courtyard and the courtyards of two neighboring churches during daylight hours. Specifically we are now:

- Provide a 30 of laundry cards each month to allow folks to do one or two loads of laundry at a local Laundromat. We must limit these to once a month; we could use twice as many. This service provides for minimal health and cleanliness and we exhaust our resources every month.
- Providing lockers in our parking lot for storage of personal belongings. Loss of personal belongings is a chronic problem with our people. The need to carry everything one owns is debilitating and subjects these folks to constant problems of theft and loss.
- Issuing about 25 bus passes each day we are open, and as with the laundry cards, they are quickly exhausted. We hope to expand these services, as we are able. Often it is difficult for our people to access services, attend job interviews, and attend parole or court dates due to lack of transportation.
- Provision of sleeping bags and tarps to those sleeping outside.
- Donated clothing is a vital component of what we do. Most of the clothing is donated. Our biggest expense is the purchase of socks, which are vital to these folks who are on their feet all day and who often cannot clean them. Annually we provide more than 1,500 clothing items through the STAR ministry.
- Partnering with *Provoking Hope*, a local addiction counseling program, to provide counselors each day to work with and encourage those dealing with addictions.

The STAR volunteer list now stands at 24 who serve over 250 hours per month. The core of the volunteers are retired FBC members, while we also have 9 with no FBC connection. In addition, a handful of STAR "guests" have also been assisting with set-up, organizing clothing, and helping in other ways. Our guest poll includes over 200 individuals of whom 50 are in regular attendance. Monthly we see 10-20 folks who are new or returning, many who come from larger neighboring communities of Salem and Portland.

Annual Budget Projection for 2018-2019*

Expenses:

Food & supplies	\$ 6,240
Bus passes	4,320
Laundry cards	3,720
Garbage	240

Total Expense **\$ 14,520**

Expectant Income:

First Baptist Fellowship Fund & Missions	\$2,900
Give A Little Foundation	4,000
First Federal S&L	700
McMinnville Community Foundation	500
Individual Gifts	2,000
Yet to be raised (Grants, etc.)	4,420

Total Income **\$ 14,520**

- These are the fiscal projections. In-kind contributions and gifts of food, clothing, and other materials are not included as they are difficult to project.