

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 in poverty. Ministries must be in relationship with American Baptist Churches USA to be eligible to apply, and only one application per church or ministry will be considered per year. Grant funds may not be used to fund staff positions.

1. General Information:

Organization Name: First Baptist Church of Mahomet

Affiliation with ABCUSA: An American Baptist Church of the Great Rivers Region

Address 402 S. Elm St., PO Box 196, Mahomet, IL 61853

Phone: 217/586-3304 Federal Tax ID#: 37-0906434

Contact person: Brian Romanowski email: bs.romanowski@gmail.com

2. Please submit 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.

3. How do you plan to use the requested funds? How will the funds specifically assist individuals battling poverty and its effects? (Please submit on separate sheet. Maximum of one page.)

4. Total cost of the project: \$80,000

5. Amount being requested from the ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant: \$5000

6. Your other funding source(s): The Great Rivers Region, churches in the area, ABHMS.

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) Brian Romanowski Date: 2/28/14

Printed Name/Title: Brian Romanowski/Pastor, First Baptist Church of Mahomet, IL

Please note:

- Incomplete applications will not be considered.
- Recipients agree to share their stories via the ABCUSA website.
- Application deadline is March 1 for grants distributed on April 15; Sept. 1 for grants distributed on Oct. 15
- Completed applications should be sent via email to beth.fogg@abc-usa.org. Only electronic submissions will be accepted.



MISSION STATEMENT

It is the desire of the congregation gathering at First Baptist Church of Mahomet to be the church of Jesus Christ in attitude, behavior and voice; to be the power and glory of Christ in the world; and to enjoy the grace of Christ in its fullness. At the same time, we have been sent into the world to personally invite others to join with us in God's eternal Kingdom.

PROJECTED BUDGET

The current cost to build a Habitat for Humanity home in Champaign County is \$80,000.

Projected funding estimates:

ABHMS - \$40,000

GRR - \$5,000

Area Churches - \$5,000

Partnership with another denomination - \$20,000

Other Sources (including the Matthew 25 grant)- \$10,000

PROPOSED USE OF FUNDS

The funds from the Matthew 25 Grant will be used along with money from other sources to build a home for a family in Gifford, IL that lost their home in the EF-3 tornado that damaged and destroyed a significant part of the town on November 17, 2013. On that day, 73 tornados occurred in Illinois, but because the total damage did not exceed the minimum threshold for federal funding, FEMA will not provide disaster funding to the communities. As a result, a number of families do not have the resources to recover from this disaster.

Gifford is a rural farming community of 975 people in central Illinois. Because of its size, Gifford did not receive the attention of other communities, such as Washington, IL when the tornado struck. As a result of the lack of attention, the people of Gifford feel abandoned and are losing hope of recovering from this disaster.

To give the people of Gifford a sense of hope, the Champaign County Habitat for Humanity chapter announced plans to build 5 homes and rehab 5 others for families who are uninsured or underinsured. They currently only have funding for one home. This grant would be used in combination with money received from several other sources to fund the building of a Habitat for Humanity home in Gifford, IL.

More than 90 homes in Gifford were completely destroyed and another 40 homes were heavily damaged. There are several uninsured families and a larger number that are underinsured and unable to rebuild or repair their homes without outside assistance. Our intent is to provide one of these families with basic, affordable housing by building a home in partnership with Champaign County Habitat for Humanity.