

ABCUSA MATTHEW 25 GRANT APPLICATION – 2017

This is in application for the 2017 ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant. We are an American Baptist Church in good standing with our Region, American Baptist Churches of the Rocky Mountains. Our ministry is focused on housing, feeding, educating and assisting in the good health of the less fortunate. This is the first time we have applied for this grant as we are a fairly new church and do not own any church property. We are strictly a ministry and a church has formed as a result. Our ministry, called Healing Graces, is directed toward helping people become self-sufficient through providing programs that will assist in feeding, educating, housing and providing good health standards for the extremely oppressed.

1. Applicant Information:

Name of Church: Gardens of Divine Hope Church

Mailing Address: 2833 South Colorado Blvd., Denver, CO 80222

Physical Address: 1955 East Arizona Avenue, Denver, CO 80210

Phone: 720-308-8418

Federal Tax ID# 32-0419736

Name of Region: American Baptist Churches of the Rocky Mountains

Contact Person: Reverend Karen Wray Schneider

Email: reverendkarenwschneider@yahoo.com

Does your church contribute to United Mission? Yes

Have you previously been awarded an ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant? NO

2. What ministry of group will use these funds?

The ministry group is called “Healing Graces” with the church as the supportive effort.

3. Specifically, how do you plan to use the requested funds?

The funds will be used to design, set-up and construct community gardens and farms for six schools within the Denver Public School System. Within that construction will be rototilling, testing soil, building perimeters, and supplying seeds. The funds will also provide training on harvesting of the crops within the gardens and farms, preservation methods of the harvest, and storing of vegetables. In addition they will provide, along with feeding the hungry from the harvests, training of resume writing, career counseling and seeking education for those less fortunate families within the schools as well as those within the immediate community. We would partner with Metrocaring and other organizations in securing housing, shelter and addressing health issues within the families of the schools and immediate community.

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 would give the families of the schools and immediate community a strong sense of HOPE. By offering the funds and resources to create their community gardens and farms, by offering the means for designing a workable resume, by assisting with career counseling, by offering a way to move from their present environment into a more desirable one, by offering the means to find a way to better health, we would give them HOPE. This would include finding hope through our mission, hope through our love, and hope through the gospel. Most of all, being present for them as they need us, to support them, to guide them, and to offer assistance in any way we can in order to better their lives and make them more self-sustaining and by covering all aspects of better housing, feeding, education and health.

5. Total cost of the project: \$5,000

6. Amount being requested from the ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant: \$5,000

7. List other funding sources: None

(We did receive a Curtis Park Grant from our Region in the past)

8. Our Mission Statement reads as follows:

Our Mission Statement:

“We are a community of faith for all people including the Biblical Standards of the Gospel, while growing Christian discipleship through outreach as it is proclaimed by the Will of God”.

Our Vision:

Abiding with the Standards of the Gospel we are a “Christ-centered mission” within our community “focused on outreach as we grow Christian Discipleship through community outreach in working with schools, churches and organizations in planting community gardens and farms, helping the hungry, providing educational opportunities, spiritual counseling, supporting our neighbors in becoming more self-sufficient, helping the mentally challenged find their way, and assisting those in need of spiritual guidance. Through God's love we hope to divinely express the living word to those who know Christ and to further explore those who have not yet experienced his grace”.

Pastor Karen W. Schneider

Reverend Karen W. Schneider (to serve as electronic signature)

PROJECTED BUDGET:

Construction of the Community Gardens and Farms

Construction and Rototilling	\$ 700.00
Seeds	\$ 500.00
Nutrients	\$ 200.00

Seeking Shelter	\$1500.00
Resume Writing for Job Seeking	\$ 100.00
Career Counseling and Interview Prep	\$ 500.00

Spiritual Counseling	\$ 200.00
Health Counseling and Advisement	\$ 300.00
Educational Opportunities	\$1000.00

\$5,000.00

(A breakdown of each of these categories is on a separate page)

BREAKDOWN OF FUNDS TO BE USED:

1. Construction and Rototilling:

\$700.00

Our Rototiller charges \$72.00 per hour and can usually do a whole garden for that amount. The ground is made soft and smooth for easy planting and serves to make the seeds sprout easier since the ground is soft.

Construction refers to a raised Garden Section where wooden boards would need to be built surrounding a 4ft by 4ft garden area.

2. Seeds:

\$500.00

Based on sale prices at Park's Seeds, the following prices would apply:

Tomato Seeds - \$4.50; Carrot Seeds - \$2.50; Hybrid Cucumber Seeds - \$4.95; Kale Seeds \$3.16; Sweet Burpless Cucumber Seeds - \$1.95; Spineless Beauty Hybrid Squash Seeds - \$2.95; Early Summer Crookneck Organic Squash Seeds - \$2.50; Better Bay Hybrid Tomato Seeds - \$2.95; Homemade Pickles Cucumber Seeds - \$2.50; Rainbow Mix Beet Seeds - \$2.95; Armadeo Eggplant Seeds - \$3.95; and Obsession Corn Seeds - \$4.95.

We will purchase approximately 10 – 15 bags of each seed collection, although in the past three years we have found that a lot of seeds are donated to the schools and organizations. If we find this the case, the extra monies will be transferred to the other designated areas such as the rototilling, soil testing, and construction of the gardens.

3. Nutrients:

We will purchase approximately 10 of each

We will also purchase Organic Garden Tone - \$9.95 per bag (4 pound bags); and Good Dirt Soil Conditioner - \$9.95 per bag (50 pound bags).

4. Resume Writing:

This will be mostly voluntary by several in the Gardens of Divine Hope Church. The Pastor used to own a Career Counseling and Resume Writing Service, so the monies would be used for Professional Resume writers other than the Pastor. All of this would be done at the schools to make it easy for the parents and families. Career Counseling would also be incorporated into this sector and be done at the school.

5. Interview Preparation: This would be performed by Professionals as well as people in the church. This would all be performed at the schools.

6. Spiritual Counseling:

This would be performed by Pastor Karen on a voluntary basis and others within Gardens of Divine Hope Certified in Pastoral Care. The monies would be used for those hired from the outside of the church and ministry.

7. Mental Health and Health Counseling:

This would all be done by Professionals at approximately \$125 to \$150 per hour.

8. Education:

Funds would be used to offer tuition as a start-up to various Accredited Educational Institutions.