

## ABCUSA MATTHEW 25 GRANT APPLICATION - 2017



A generous donor has given a sum of money through American Baptist Churches USA Office of the General Secretary, 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. Awards will be granted only to ministries of an American Baptist church in good standing with their Region. This is a change from previous grant cycles. We will no longer award grants to organizations affiliated with churches such as a cooperative group that includes non-ABC churches; applications must be submitted by an ABC church for work being done directly by that church.

Only one application per church will be considered within a 24-month period. Because this change was made following the Fall 2016 cycle, recipients of a Spring 2016 grant are eligible to apply.

Grant funds may not be used to fund staff positions, rainy day funds, church benevolent funds, regular ongoing church operating expenses (i.e. utilities, insurance), repairs, or for capital improvements to facilities. Grant awards will be sent to the ABC church 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: MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH

Mailing Address: 146 HAMPSHIRE STREET, CAMBRIDGE, MA 02139

Phone: 617-868-4853

Federal Tax ID#: 04-2810611

Name of Region:

Contact person (person completing this form): Reverend Brenda Henry-Brown, Pastor

Email of contact person: brendahbrown@hotmail.com

Does your church contribute to United Mission? ☒ Yes ☐ No Does not give to UM

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?

Project Manna Soup Kitchen and Food Pantry

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 for single mothers. You are encouraged to attach a longer description (no more than one page) of the ministry or project.

To purchase food (see attachment)

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?

see attachment

5. Total cost of the project: \$48,000.00

6. Amount being requested from the ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant: \$5000.00

7. List other funding source(s): Boston Baptist Social Union, Cambridge Community Foundation, MIT Community Funds Memorial Church, Harvard University

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 name) Massachusetts Avenue 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): Deborah J Avant (your name typed here is your electronic signature)

Date: 08/28/2017

**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 2017 ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant application**

### **1. General information**

Awards will be granted only to ministries of an American Baptist church in good standing with their Region. This is a change from previous grant cycles. We will no longer award grants to organizations affiliated with churches such as a cooperative group that include non-ABC churches; applications must be submitted by an ABC church in good standing.

When determining Grants awards, the following criteria will be considered: whether the church is in good standing within the region; whether the church contributes to United Mission; number of and amounts of previous Matthew 25 Grants received; sustainability of ministry beyond Matthew 25 Grant funding; description of ministry and needs addressed by funding; and the budget submitted along with this application.

Checks will be made payable to the church. 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, do not include a lengthy 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 and submitted as an attachment.

Please note that grant funds may not be used to fund staff positions and salaries, for capital improvements to church facilities, to pay for regular ongoing church operating expenses (i.e. utilities, insurance) or repairs, 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?

**MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**PROJECT MANNA**  
**146 Hampshire Street**  
**Cambridge, MA 02139**  
**617-868-4853**  
**Report of Use of Funds**

Despite its reputation as a “university town”, the city of Cambridge continues to have many serious social problems. The most critical needs can be found in the large neighborhood surrounding the Massachusetts Avenue Baptist Church, officially designated as Area IV. With five public housing projects, including two for the elderly, Area IV is Cambridge’s most vulnerable district.

One of the area’s most pressing problems is that of homelessness. City Officials cannot state precisely how many homeless dwell in Cambridge. All homeless persons lack the basic necessities to secure food and prepare a warm, healthy meal on a regular basis. These persons need to be fed; if the immediate need is not met, homeless individuals will have little chance to maintain his or her health and make a change in life for the better.

The plight of the hungry, however, is not confined to the homeless population. With the ongoing economic downturn and the reduction of services from the federal, state, and local governments, we continue to see an increase in our service to the working poor – poor who do not earn enough to provide for the basic human needs; shelter, food and medical care. Project Manna allows us to provide a neighborly helping hand to their need for nutritious food. The Food Pantry serves mostly families with children even though there are an increasingly number of single persons who are asking for help. The Soup Kitchen serves meals twice a week to anyone who walks in.

We continue to serve an average of 250 homeless individuals in the Soup Kitchen and provided groceries for over 300 families as part of the EPIC Food Pantry program.

FEMA mandates that we serve all of Middlesex County; however, most of our clients come from the surrounding neighborhoods and Boston. The community recipients we serve include Portuguese and Brazilian, African-Americans, Haitians, persons from other Caribbean Islands and European, eastern European and African countries.

We continue to see low-income families coming to the Soup Kitchen to supplement their food dollars. Our Holiday meals programs, which were added in 1996, continue to provide not only food, but also a sense of family/community for people who would otherwise be lonely during a season that expresses and supports fellowship.

There is no indication that the need for our services will be decreasing, in fact, we have seen a notable increase in the number that we serve. There has been a decrease in the amount we received from gift givers, thus, that impacts our purchasing power and our food purchase schedule. Last year, we were not able to offer the EPIC Food program every month due to low or no funds to purchase the groceries to supply to the families. And when we open our doors for food distribution, the lines are always long. We have clients who camp out over night to make sure they are “first” to get food.

For over twenty years of our program’s services to the community, we have been able to offer food, conversation and hope to those who come through our church doors. It is important to a community to know that the church is available in time of need. We do not generate profit from our services, so we will continue to need fundraising partnerships to support the ministry.

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PROJECT MANNA  
146 Hampshire Street  
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## **MISSION STATEMENT**

Project Manna seeks to enhance the quality of life and decrease the incidence of hunger for low income families and individuals, especially those who are homeless, by providing nutritional assistance. Project Manna has been in continuous operation since August 4, 1989.

The cornerstone of Project Manna's contribution to the community is our soup kitchen that serves a three-course dinner each Monday and Friday evening. Served in the Fellowship Hall of the church, this warm, nutritious meal is offered year-round to anyone in need. Approximately 125 homeless individuals enjoy this meal twice per week in a supportive, caring environment.

Our Food Pantry is open one Saturday per month with the mission of providing nutritious food to increase the nutritional competency of low-income families and individuals. This program serves seniors, individuals and families with infants and children.

## **Project Manna**

Massachusetts Avenue Baptist Church

January 1, 2017 - December 31, 2017

### **BUDGET**

#### **REVENUE**

Contributions	5,000.00
Fundraising	18,000.00
Grant Income	<u>25,000.00</u>

#### **TOTAL REVENUE**

**48,000.00**

#### **DISBURSEMENT**

##### **PROGRAM:**

Accounting Services	0.00
Building Damage and Property Replacement	200.00
Building Usage/Utility offset	5,000.00
E.P.I.C. - Food Pantry	8,500.00
Equipment	150.00
Equipment Maintenance and Repair	300.00
Food Purchase	15,000.00
Food Transportation	450.00
General	50.00
Holiday Project	1,500.00
Miscellaneous	100.00
Paper Goods	500.00

#### **Total Program**

31,750.00

##### **PERSONNEL:**

Cook	4,150.00
Directors' Stipend (2 persons)	9,633.00
Food Pantry Coordinator	2,225.00
Misc. Labor	<u>200</u>

#### **Total Personnel**

16,208.00

#### **TOTAL DISBURSEMENT**

**47,958.00**