

# 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 West Hill Ministries, First Baptist Church  
Affiliation with ABCUSA ABCOPAD - Beaver Association  
Address 301 W. State St. P.O. Box 635  
SHARON, PA 16146  
Phone 724-347-7261 Federal Tax ID# 25-1124423  
Contact person Rev Cindy Swogger email pcydnic@yahoo.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 \$12,000.00 estimated

5. Amount being requested from the ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant \$5,000.00

6. Your other funding source(s) individuals, organizations, churches, businesses, foundation

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. Cindy Swogger Date 8-26-2014

Printed Name/Title Rev. Cindy Swogger, Associate Pastor, Director of West Hill Ministries

## 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](mailto:beth.fogg@abc-usa.org). Only electronic submissions will be accepted.





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### West Hill Ministries Description and Mission Statement

West Hill Ministries, a neighborhood outreach in the city of Sharon. West Hill Ministries is a joint ministry of First Baptist, Sacred Heart Roman Catholic, First United Methodist, St. John's Episcopal, Oakland Ave. United Methodist, Sharon Alliance, St. Joseph's Catholic and the Christian community at large. WHM seeks to be *The Church* in our neighborhoods and unite in efforts to serve our community to address spiritual and physical needs. It is our intent to help each child develop intellectually, socially, physically and spiritually, to have confidence, to learn values and respect. Though seeking to serve children and their families, adults and Sr. Citizens, WHM directs most of its energy and programming to serve children and youth.

After school programs for kindergarten through twelfth grade are offered. WHM began in 1991 and currently offers after school programs at three centers in the city of Sharon Monday through Thursday during the school year. They are **WHM West** at First Baptist is the original center, **WHM First United Methodist** hosts the teen programs and **WHM St. Joe's** opened **September 13, 2012**.

WHM serves some of the **most disadvantaged** kids in the city. A safe haven for children and youth is provided. At WHM young people are encouraged in education in a safe environment, given love and care, helped with homework, taught values, are encouraged to dream of a bright future and given help to nurture the dream. Children and youth are provided a computer lab, game room, great snacks & food. The goal is to help enable young people succeed in life and rise above their circumstances. We ask your help.

A vision statement was adopted in 1996: *To be obedient to the Great Commandment and faithful to the Great Commission of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.*

Matthew 22:37-39 is the Great Commandment

Matthew 28:19-20 is the Great Commission





The requested funding will only be used to help fund the **FOOD** portion of the after school program budget. It is a huge undertaking to feed dinner to that many children and teens. Our volunteer kitchen staff does an awesome job!

In 2013 during the school year we fed lots of children and youth who came to West Hill Ministries After School Programs. We served 3,170 dinners at the West Center at First Baptist (Gr. K-6), 767 dinners at the St. Joe's Center (Gr. K-7) and 427 dinners at First United Methodist (Gr. 7-12) for a total of 4,373 dinners served. These are kids who otherwise may not have had a meal for supper.

The children of Sharon City Schools have a very large percentage of families who live below the poverty level. We want to help feed these children. We serve children and teens of some of the most disadvantaged families in the city of Sharon.

Children cannot learn when they are hungry. Our intent is to feed both their bellies and their souls. We provide great snacks & food. The goal is to help enable young people succeed in life and rise above their circumstances. We believe that providing a well-rounded Christian After School Program that provides Christian Education, a warm loving environment, computer labs, exercise and snacks, milk and supper will help them succeed. We ask your help.



**West Hill Ministries After School Programs  
Estimated Projected Program Food Budget  
2014/2015 School Year**

**\$1,000.00 Snacks** (cereal, crackers, veggies, ranch, peanut butter...)  
**\$ 3,000.00 Milk**  
**\$ 8,000.00 Food** (meat, potatoes, bread, veggies, fruit...)  
**\$12,000.00 TOTAL**

**WHM Food Budget of 2013  
Per WHM Annual Report**  
\$10,881.89 After School Programs  
**\$ 1,224.52 Summer Programs**  
**\$12,106.41 TOTAL**

Good Thursday afternoon Beth. I trust my email finds you well.

It has come to my attention that Rev. Cindy Swogger has submitted a grant request for West Hills Ministries to cover the cost, or a portion thereof, of their feeding program in Sharon, Pennsylvania. I just wanted to touch base to give my two cents of support for the work that Rev. Cindy is doing. It is an awesome ministry! Pastor Cindy has been able to cross borders and boundaries there in Sharon in leading the work she does; getting people near and far away, Baptist and non-Baptist, with support from church and unchurched individuals, local churches, community organizations, government bodies, and independent foundations to participate in this valuable work. All see the value of what Pastor Cindy is doing to "feed" kids; literally, socially, educationally, and spiritually and they want to be a part.

I just wanted to offer my support for the work Pastor Cindy is doing and encourage granting her a grant, if possible. If it is the desire for Matthew 25 grants to give funds to impact children dealing with the realities of poverty and its different dynamics, then you will not be disappointed with supporting West Hills Ministries. It will serve as an example of ministry to others for others to follow. Actually, it already has.

God bless you, personally and professionally.

Have a great day in the Lord!

*Jeff*

Dr. Jeffrey A. Johnson

National Director of Evangelism and New Church Planting

[American Baptist Home Mission Societies](#)

800.222.3872, extension 2406

610.768.2470, fax