

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. Grant awards will be sent to the ABC church or organization, checks will not be made payable to an individual or ministry.

1. General Information:

Organization Name_ Stepping Stones Pre-K, First Baptist Church Mountlake Terrace, WA

Affiliation with ABCUSA (Check made payable to)_ First Baptist Church/MLT

MailingAddress_ 22800 56th Ave W
Mountlake Terrace, WA 98043

Phone_ 425-778-2046 Federal Tax ID#_ 916035184

Contact person_ Dennis N. Plourde email_ dnplou@earthlink.net

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 \$20,000

5. Amount being requested from the ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant_ \$5,000.

6. Your other funding source(s)_ A Local scholarship fund has been established - other ABC/USA congregations have helped in seeing this fund any granted funds as described. (Fund is around \$300. to date)

I certify that all the information submitted with the 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)_____/s/ Dennis N. Plourde_____ Date__ 8/26/15_____

Printed Name/Title__ Dennis N. Plourde, Pastor_____

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 Tina.Turner@abc-usa.org. Only electronic submissions will be accepted.

Stepping Stones Pre-K - FBC/MLT - 22800 - 56th Ave. W., Mountlake Terrace - 425-778-3642

Stepping Stones Pre-K is an extension of the outreach ministry of the First Baptist Church of Mountlake Terrace, WA, in its third year and the sister program of Wings To Reading (in its 8th year), which is an afternoon reading intervention program for disadvantaged children in second, third and fourth graders. Sadly, 50% of our pre-k students last year needed scholarship help. Help ranged from 50% to 95% of the tuition. Last year the Matthew 25 grant made it possible for 4 students to attend the pre-k program. (see pictures attached) Almost 50% of the students in the three elementary schools in Mountlake Terrace qualify for free or reduced breakfast and lunch. We provide a healthy snack for the pre-k and a full meal for the Wings students.

Because the congregation of FBC/MLT views this as part of our outreach ministry, the congregation donates the space and covers all the utility costs, janitor, etc. Tuition is set well below some schools in the area and runs slightly below most of the others. Even this is more than those who need it most can afford.

Our congregation is elderly and small, however, they are doing and providing more than many larger and younger congregations. They just don't have any more resources to draw from. And yet, they are committed to this program and its outreach.

Our Director, Mrs. Diane Plourde, M.E.D., works closely with the school district to prepare the pre-k students to be ready for kindergarten. Stepping Stones Pre-K has been a member of the Edmonds School District Early Learning Collaborative since Fall of 2012 and staff takes part in their professional development sessions for Pre-K-3. We are also on the District listing of recognized and qualified Pre-Schools in the area.

Research shows that the achievement gap between low and middle income children is huge - even greater than between white and black students. One of our goals is to be able to provide scholarships to students who live below the poverty level and whose parents are not able to pay for any pre-k programs in order to help in closing that gap in our community. The Matthew 25 funds for 2015/16 would allow us to provide five or six (5/6) scholarships for the coming school year to students who are in the greatest need of pre-k but whose parents do not have the resources available. Because research has shown that people are more committed to programs they must pay something for, we will ask the parents to pay a small amount - as they are able - towards the program - or they could volunteer in kind. We have had a number of calls from parents who have heard about us, but need financial assistance.

Several of the applicants for this fall 2015/16 school year are very low income (we follow the Edmond's school district guidelines). The only way they can have a child in Pre-K is with scholarship help. Kindergartens are now asking that those beginning kindergarten have elementary reading skills and math skills. The Budget figures reflect increasing student enrollment by 5 or 6 students. Referrals come almost daily from the school district for parents who need pre-k but do not have the financial resources .

Although the grant is not dispersed until October 15, the knowledge that the grant is coming would enable us to keep our registration open and allow students to attend in anticipation of the upcoming funds.



Director, Diane Plourde, M.Ed.

FBC/MLT

22800 - 56th Ave. West

Mountlake Terrace, Washington 98043

Telephone: 425-778-3642 www.WingsToReading.org e-mail: WingsToReading@earthlink.net (OR) SteppingStonesPreK@earthlink.net



Stepping Stones Pre-K Proposed Budget School Year 2015-16

Item	Regular Income	In Kind	Grant Income	Expense		Balance
Tuition	\$12,000		\$5,000			
Donations - Private	\$3,000					
FBC/MLT Facility Use/Rental (in Kind)		\$12,000				
2 Volunteer Staff (In-Kind)		\$8,000				
Director Salary (Washington Certificated Teacher)				\$6,500		
Teacher Aide (Trained in Early Childhood)				\$5,250		
Staff/Volunteer Training				\$500		
Food & Nutrition				\$2,500		
Parent Training/Classes/Meals				\$1,250		
Student Materials				\$1,550		
Office Supplies				\$600		
Utilities FBC/MLT				\$1,500		
L & I State of Washington				\$350		
Column Totals	\$15,000		\$5,000	\$20,000		- 0 -
Total Budget				\$20,000		



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In addition to learning the alphabet, numbers, shapes, etc. Stepping Stones Pre-K students - plant and harvest, cook, learn about bubbles, pottery, science, birds and nature - all activities are hands on - they get dirty but have fun doing it.



Pictures for 2014/15 school year.

