

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 First Baptist Church of Omaha (FBCO)
Affiliation with ABCUSA (Check made payable to) FBCO is an American Baptist Church
Mailing Address 421 Park Avenue, Omaha, Nebraska 68131
Phone 402-345-5009 Federal Tax ID# 47-0402356
Contact person Jeri Shelor email jshelor1@cox.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 \$4,172

5. Amount being requested from the ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant \$4,172

6. Your other funding source(s) Donations from congregation for store items and camp scholarships

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) Jeri Shelor Date 08/31/15

Printed Name/Title Jeri Shelor / Team Leader, Property and Physical Resources

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.



First Baptist Church of Omaha

Matthew 25 Grant Proposal

Family Night Life Program

First Baptist Church of Omaha (FBCO) is an inner city church located in Omaha, Nebraska. When we walk out the doors of our church, we step into a mission field that is filled with opportunities - opportunities to serve the poor, the hungry, the homeless, and the spiritually deprived. Being an inner city church has its financial challenges and our income barely covers our monthly expenses; however, God is faithful in meeting our needs. We firmly believe God continues to have a mission and a purpose for our congregation and we are committed to sharing God's Word and living the gospel here in Midtown Omaha. We feel this is exemplified in our Vision Portfolio which is provided in Attachment A.

Our Wednesday night outreach program will be starting on September 16 with a new focus and a new name - Family Night Life (FNL). We have four new goals for FNL.

1. Make Children and Youth our main focus
2. Encourage Adults to assist with the program and support our kids
3. Enroll more Children and Youth from the neighborhood
4. Make the meals more nutritious with plenty of food to allow for second helpings

FNL consists of two main programs – Children and Youth. The Children's Program is called FROG (Fully Rely On God) and the Youth Program is called Coalesce. We are encouraging Parents, Grandparents, Aunts, Uncles, and other Adults to rally together and support the kids by serving as team leaders, section leaders, nursery workers, cooks, etc.

The demographics of our neighborhood are slowly changing but poverty, hunger, and desperation still exist. The US Census Bureau's 2013 American Community Survey shows 44.5% of the people living in our neighborhood are living below the poverty level of which 24.8% are under age 18. Around 60.7% of the people under age 18 living in our neighborhood are living below the poverty level. Please see Attachment C. There are kids caught in the middle of poverty and hopelessness who are battling to get out and find a way to fit into society. In the past, the majority of the kids attending our Wednesday night outreach program have been from FBCO and the American Karen Baptist Church¹ (AKBC) who worships in our building. This year we want to have a stronger presence in our neighborhood.

The night starts out with everyone sharing a meal together. For some of the kids, this is their only meal for the day and for others, it is their best meal of the day or even the week. Due to these circumstances, we decided to prepare more nutritious meals and make sure there's plenty of food for second helpings. A member of our congregation, Niki Kubiak, RD, CSSD, will be preparing the menus. Niki is a registered dietitian and a certified specialist in sports dietetics. We feel this change in our program will be beneficial to our kids. When food is left over, it is usually delivered to a homeless shelter.

After the meal, the Children attend three sessions including Bible time, recreation, and music while the Youth have recreation, Bible time, and games. We also have a point program for Children and Youth. The Children earn points when a leader catches them doing something good, they bring their Bible, invite a friend, etc. They can spend their points on school supplies and other items in the general store, gifts for family members at the Christmas store, or apply them towards a scholarship to attend Camp Moses Merrill in the summer. This helps the Children learn how to budget and make decisions. The Youth can earn points to apply towards camp scholarships by volunteering to help at events or programs.

In the past, we have charged a fee for each participant to fund our Wednesday night outreach program. Last year the fees collected barely funded the program and our meals weren't always very nutritious. If somebody is not able to pay, we allow them to eat for free but if they see others paying, it can be embarrassing and possibly keep them from attending. With our new focus on Children and Youth, we would like to provide a free meal to everyone who attends. The general store, Christmas store, and camp scholarships are funded by donations. FBCO would like to use Matthew 25 grant money to fund FNL including meals, meal supplies, curriculum, and a few miscellaneous items. Please see Attachment B for the FNL budget.

FBCO wants to show our kids they are treasured human beings who are dearly loved by God and created in his image. We believe Family Night Life will help kids find hope in a God that cares and a church who is living the gospel. Thank you for considering our grant proposal. We appreciate this opportunity.

¹ Our Karen Brothers and Sisters are refugees who have relocated to our area due to severe persecution in their native Myanmar.

**First Baptist Church of Omaha
Matthew 25 Grant Proposal
Family Night Life Program
Attachment A
Vision Portfolio**

The FBCO Vision Portfolio is provided below.

Mission

"We exist to equip people to live out the gospel in everyday life, loving God, loving all people, in midtown Omaha and beyond."

Vision

"Living the Gospel in Midtown and Beyond"

Slogan

"Living the Gospel"

Image



Logo



The mission statement for our new Family Night Life (FNL) program is provided below.

Mission

"To lead kids, teens, and their families to the person of Jesus Christ and help them grow in relationship with him."

**First Baptist Church of Omaha
Matthew 25 Grant Proposal
Family Night Life Program
Attachment B
Projected Budget**

Family Night Life Program - Estimated Expenses		Cost
Meals (28 weeks at \$120 per week) ¹		\$3,360
Meal Supplies (plates, bowls, cups, silverware, napkins, disposable gloves, and trash bags)		\$440
Curriculum		\$200
Recreation (scrimmage vest pinnies - 12)		\$72
Promotion (banner, sign, and flyers) ²		\$100
Total		\$4,172

¹ A free nutritious meal would be provided to all of our guests. Last year we averaged 51 guests a night. This year we are hoping to average 65 guests per night. Our menus will be made up several weeks in advance to take advantage of weekly sale ads. The recipes will be organized such that a couple of types of meat can be used.

² We would like to heavily promote our new Family Night Life program in the neighborhood through the use of a banner for people to see as they are walking or driving by the church, a sign to welcome our guests, and flyers to use as invitations.

**First Baptist Church of Omaha
Matthew 25 Grant Proposal
Family Night Life Program
Attachment C
Poverty Statistics**

Age Group	Tract 40 (Includes FBCO)			Douglas County (Includes Tract 40)			Tract 40 % of Douglas County	
	Total	Living Below Poverty Level		Total	Living Below Poverty Level		Total	Living Below Poverty Level
		#	% of Total		#	% of Total		
Total Population	2,779	1,236	44.5%	513,120	73,268	14.3%	0.5%	1.7%
Under 18 Years	506	307	60.7%	133,286	26,295	19.7%	0.4%	1.2%
18 To 64 Years	2,011	880	43.8%	325,210	42,790	13.2%	0.6%	2.1%
65 Years And Older	262	49	18.7%	54,624	4,183	7.7%	0.5%	1.2%

Additional information

Data was obtained from the US Census Bureau's American Community Survey

Source: 2009-2013 5-Year American Community Survey

Link: <http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/searchresults.xhtml?refresh=t>.

First Baptist Church of Omaha (FBCO) is located in Tract 40 which is a subset of Douglas County