

## ABCUSA MATTHEW 25 GRANT APPLICATION - 2018



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.

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 or repairs 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: New Beginnings Christian Community

Mailing Address: 1130 East Market St. Charlottesville VA 22902

Phone: 434-996-9137

Federal Tax ID#: 54-2057721

Name of Region: ABCOTS

Contact person (person completing this form): Dr. Elizabeth Emrey

Email of contact person: Lizemrey@yahoo.com

Does your church contribute to United Mission? ☒ Yes ☐ No

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?

Food Ministry

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 buy food for our homeless shelter guests (20 women), the needy who come to our community meals and recovery dinners (14-50) and buy canned goods for our food pantry recipients (80-120),

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?

The funds will provide healthy meals to hungry people who are homeless, in recovery or alone and hungry on holidays. It will also allow us to offer more canned food to needy families. This will not only supply nourishment for their bodies, but also for their souls, through our volunteer church members, who can offer physical, psychological and spiritual assistance to the homeless and those who are struggling to feed themselves and their families.

5. Total cost of the project: \$5,174

6. Amount being requested from the ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant: \$2,174

7. List other funding source(s): BAMA (Dave Matthews Band grant )
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) New Beginnings Christian Community, 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): Elizabeth Emrey (your name typed here is your electronic signature)

Date: August 31, 2018

**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 2018 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?

**5. Total cost of the project**

List the total amount of this project or ministry need.

**6. Amount being requested from the ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant.**

One application per church will be considered per 24 month period. The maximum amount awarded is \$5,000. If you have previously been a Matthew 25 grant recipient, you must have submitted a follow-up report in order to be eligible to reapply.

**7. Your other funding source(s).**

List all other sources providing funding for this ministry.

**8. Please submit with your application a copy of:**

**- Your mission statement**

Include as an attachment a copy of the church or ministry's mission statement.

**- A financial statement for this ministry**

This budget or projected budget must include itemized expenses and income for the ministry applying for the Matthew 25 grant funding. Church budgets are not acceptable.

**Other information and requirements**

By submitting an application,

- You certify that all information submitted is true and correct;
- You agree to use and/or disburse any awarded grant funds for the sole purpose as described within this application;
- You agree to supply a one page report on the use of funds and a photo/photos within six months of receipt of the grant;
- You give ABCUSA permission to share your story via the ABCUSA website or newsletter;
- You give ABCUSA permission to use the photograph(s) submitted for printing and/or posting.

I have reviewed the instructions provided. (initial here) EVE

Your typed name and initials are your electronic signatures on this document.

## Matthew 25 Grant Budget

• Augmenting the donated, but limited food we get from Walmart and Food Lion, with purchasing food from the Blue Ridge Food Bank at 5 cents a pound for cans (approximately 4 cents a can or 300 cans a week)	\$624
• Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter Dinners on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day as well as the Sunday before and Passover Community Meal On Holy Thursday, we serve lamb, cherohet, matzos, hard boiled eggs, horseradish and parsley, remembering Jesus' last Passover. The holiday meals cost around \$160 apiece. The Passover meal with lamb and special food is \$350	\$1,150
• Friday night recovery dinner, movie and a meeting from 8:00 p.m. until midnight on Fridays, which is a rough time for addicts and alcoholics,. We offer pizza, chicken, vegetables, dessert and snacks, plus a movie and time afterwards to talk with our Associate Minister, who is also an ex-offender. It costs about \$50 a week to provide a meal for 10-14 people.	\$2,600
• Feeding the 20 homeless women who are staying at our church breakfast and dinner from Dec. 29 <sup>th</sup> 2018 -January 5 <sup>th</sup> 2019. (Our city has a movable homeless shelter from congregation to congregation each week) Groceries for the meals cost \$100 for each night and \$100 for 7 breakfasts.	<u>\$800</u>
Total	\$5,174
BAMA (Dave Matthews Band Grant)	<u>\$3,000</u>
Remaining	\$2,174

## New Beginnings Christian Community Mission Statement

**Our mission is to be “God’s Community of Hope and Healing to all in Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit.”**

This mission is further expressed in our church Covenant:

In the presence of God and this community, having confessed Jesus Christ as Our Lord and Savior and relying upon our Creator God and the Holy Spirit for wisdom, power and love, we joyfully covenant with each other.

We will pray for one another and the world, worship together, and regularly celebrate the Lord’s Supper together.

We will seek God’s guidance through prayer, reading the Bible, and listening to the community of faith.

We will welcome all people in the name of Christ, empowering them in the gifts that God has given them.

In gratitude for all that God has given us, we will support the worship and ministries of the church.

We will continually strive to love all people as Christ has loved us, compassionately caring for those in need as reconcilers and peace-makers.

## Use of Requested Funds

Our church was founded in 2002, with a grant from the Church Planter's Institute of the American Baptist Churches. Our vision was to minister to those who were not welcome in traditional churches: the homeless, addicts, alcoholics, ex-offenders and sex offenders and their families. We began with Bible studies and soon were asked to have worship on Sundays. Since that time, sixteen years ago, we have become an established church, with a rented building, a constitution, a diaconate, trustees, a part-time secretary, two co-pastors and an associate minister.

While our church has grown in number, spirit and witness in our community, we have struggled with finances. Our members are generous with the little that they have. Many of them find it very difficult just to make it through each week. In 2004, we noticed that many of our members came to church hungry and we started providing breakfast for them. Then we tried to gather groceries from our congregation, but few had many items to spare. Under the guidance of two of our members, we applied to the Blue Ridge Food Bank for membership in their community food pantry. We were not only welcomed to buy their food at greatly reduced prices, but also referred to Walmart and Food Lion for weekly donations to our Food Ministry.

Over the last 14 years, we have seen our numbers grow as well as their need for subsidized groceries. Every Saturday, we provide 80-120 people from our church and the community with 1,000 lbs of food for their families, which includes; meats, vegetables, fruits, pastries, bread, dairy, dry and canned goods. Food Lion and Walmart are very generous, but they rarely have spare canned goods. Many times we have had to restrict our recipients to taking only 2 cans a week, hardly enough to provide what they need for a hungry family. We can purchase canned goods from the Blue Ridge Food Bank for only 5 cents a pound. Three hundred extra cans a week, would certainly help our 80-120 hungry people provide balanced meals for their families.

Recently, we noticed that the local soup kitchens were closed for dinner on Thanksgiving, Christmas, Holy Thursday, Easter and other holidays. Many people spent these days of celebration alone and hungry. We want to offer turkey, chicken and ham dinners to the community, both on the Sunday before the holiday and on the day itself. Pot-luck meals do not work in our church, few of our diners have the resources or the kitchens to prepare food. Thus, we need to buy chicken, ham, turkeys, beans, lamb (for Passover) and fixings.

One of our members requested this year that we have a Friday night meeting with a movie and time to talk. He wanted us to open our church to the recovery community on Friday nights, which is the time of the greatest temptation for addicts and alcoholics. Thus, we began The Open Door Intervention Ministry. Many homeless and hungry street people come to our Friday night meetings. They have not eaten since their lunch at the noon soup kitchens. The folks who attend do not have the money to contribute to these meals.

As our reputation for helping those in need grows, so do the opportunities to witness to Jesus' love for everyone. We have been asked by our local homeless shelter network to care for 20 homeless women for the week after Christmas. The PACEM program rotates among churches and synagogues in our community. Each congregation hosts the women or men for a week or two in their building. They are expected to provide their guests with dinner and breakfast. Since our members have such limited incomes, we will need to purchase the food.

We want to "feed the hungry," as Jesus commanded us to do, but we need your assistance to fulfill this sacred mandate. Help us open our church to the hungry so we can feed their bodies and souls.