

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." The donor's primary concern is to help ameliorate poverty. ABCUSA will distribute grants of up to \$5,000 semi-annually as long as the generosity of this donor continues. A panel will select recipients 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.

1. General Information:

Organization Name Adopt-A-Block of Aroostook
Affiliation with ABCUSA a ministry of Military Street Baptist Church
Address 56 Military St., Houlton, Me. 04730
Phone (207) 532-2783 x 106 Federal Tax ID# 27-3532809
Contact person Tammy Goetsch email aab@houltonmsbc.org

2. Please submit with your application a copy of:

- Your mission statement
- Your most recent annual report or audited financial statement

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 \$ 7,500.00

5. Amount being requested from the ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant \$ 4,300.00

6. Your other funding source(s) Military St. Baptist Church

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) Tammy Goetsch Date 2-28-13
Printed Name/Title Tammy Goetsch, Program Director, AABA.

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 to:

Mission Resource Development
American Baptist Churches USA
P.O. Box 851
Valley Forge, PA 19482-0851

Or emailed to: Beth.Fogg@abc-usa.org



MATTHEW 25 GRANT NARRATIVE-ADOPT A BLOCK OF AROOSTOOK 2013

Aroostook County used to be called the Crown of Maine. The Crown is perhaps a bit tarnished. Bordering on Canada, it is Maine's northernmost county, and one of its most rural, isolated, and disadvantaged regions. Although the rugged beauty of the landscape is compelling, its people are wary, weary, and struggling. Our community has a 19% poverty rate. That grinding poverty, functional illiteracy, rampant substance abuse, and despair are all taking their toll.

With the funds from ABCUSA Matthew 25 grant, we plan to target two specific projects of Adopt-A-Block of Aroostook (AABA): the "It's All About Choices" after-school program and "Just 4 Boys" summer camp.

"Choices": AABA responded to a need in the community when we learned that the local schools would be releasing their students an hour earlier every Tuesday to allow for Professional Learning Groups for teachers. This early release presented a hardship for many families in our community. We saw and met that need by partnering with the local schools to bus students grades 1-8 to our church for an afterschool program.

We are encouraged with the results that we have been seeing in its first six months. Because of the rapport built over time and with regular contact with low-income families on our blocks, they now trust us to provide safe, structured, and nurturing educational activities for their children. The children are responding well to the varied character development activities, the individualized attention, and the safe haven. This week, when we followed up with a grandmother who is dealing with a chaotic, dysfunctional family situation, she told us that her grandson had a wonderful time at the after-school program, had already recounted all the details of the previous three hours, and was looking forward to returning.

The funds requested will be used for curriculum, educational materials and supplies, healthy snacks, field trips, fuel and staffing. We will use these funds to provide activities that build character, promote trust, and build and model healthy relationships with volunteers and staff. In order to break generational cycles of poverty the church must actively provide everything that Matthew 25 encompasses. This program focuses on that. According to What Every Church Member Should Know about Poverty, "The fundamental reasons for poverty are lack of educational attainment and the disconnection of family and/or community." (Ehlig and Payne, p. 5) If we can reach children at an early age, we are hopeful that the cycles of poverty can be broken in their lifetime.

"Just 4 Boys": Funds are requested for the third annual summer camp program for at-risk boys aged 7-12 called "Just 4 Boys". We invite trusted and respected men and women of all ages in our community who love the Lord, love to have fun, and have a heart to build into the lives of the next generation. These volunteers are able to build relationships with the boys as well as work with them, showing them the love of Christ.

This program is specifically intended to provide fun and challenging activities for boys, opportunities for presentation of the gospel, spiritual growth and development, community service projects, and Christ-centered achievement opportunities. Funding will help us to continue to provide activities such as art projects, day trips, camping, cooking, fishing, swimming, music and science. We increased our camper numbers last year from 12 to 19 boys and hope to increase those numbers this year with the use of the funds requested. With increased campers, additional, food, supplies, transportation and staffing will be needed.

A few of these boys now attend church either on Sunday mornings or at Junior High youth group or Discovery Club on Sunday nights. One of the parents even attends the Celebrate Recovery Program here at Military Street Baptist Church. Campers also signed up for the Choices After School Program which shows us that healthy relationships are being built, lives are being changed and that the church is committed to breaking the cycle of poverty in our community.

With these funds from the ABCUSA Matthew 25 grant, we anticipate that the Adopt-a-Block of Aroostook ministries will be strengthened and deepened. We trust that the Crown of Maine will shine more brightly for the Kingdom. Thank you for prayerfully considering our requests.

Adopt-A-Block of Aroostook Mission Statement

The purpose and mission of Adopt-A-Block of Aroostook (AABA) is to impact our communities by bringing hope and love one block at a time, by assisting with food, clothing needs, life-skills education and “Project Prevention: Keeping Families Together.” It’s about giving a “hand-up” not a “hand-out.”

Adopt-A-Block of Aroostook Background:

Adopt-A-Block of Aroostook (AABA) is helping to make a difference, helping to break the cycle of poverty in our community. AABA is one of the many vibrant ministries of Military Street Baptist Church in Houlton. The program has been growing rapidly as we meet the physical, emotional, and social needs of those in our community. In Year 1, we served the needs of 45 families on one block in Houlton. Our neighborhood visits included such actions as delivering fresh, homemade cookies; distributing food and household staples; and providing friendly well-being checks. Shortly thereafter, we took on the challenge of adopting a high-crime area inhabited by low-income families. Within six months, the police informed us that crime had dropped in that area by 90%. In Year 2, we received our 501(c) (3) status and served 80 families. In Year 3, at the request of the town manager, we again expanded to adopt additional high-risk blocks, for a total of 115 families. That year, AABA received a community service award from the Houlton Police Department. Now, in Year 4, we have adopted a trailer park and currently serve between 115-120 families on a monthly basis. In addition to monthly community FREE breakfasts and clothing giveaways, we offer afterschool programming, summer camp; parenting classes and individualized follow up of our adopted residents.



Choices & Just 4 Boys Programs 2013 Budget

PROJECTED EXPENSES

Staff Expenses

Choices Director	1,000.00	
Just 4 Boys Director (s)	1,000.00	
	subtotal	\$2,000.00

Equipment & Misc.

Electronics	500.00	
Educational Materials	450.00	
Games & Equipment	300.00	
Food	375.00	
Curriculum	125.00	
Gasoline for Van	150.00	
	subtotal	\$1,900.00

Special Outings

Lake Days	100.00	
Archery & Fishing Day Trip	100.00	
Local Field Trips	200.00	
	subtotal	400.00

total amount of request	\$4,300.00
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Gift in Kind-Donations from Military Street Baptist

Utilities

Facility Space Rental	1,300.00	GIK	
Electricity	150.00	GIK	
Telephone	75.00	GIK	
Water	100.00	GIK	
	total utilities		1,625.00

Volunteer Hours

Total of Volunteer Hours* (\$16.53 hour x 1,603 hrs.)	\$26,497.59	GIK
Administration Hours (\$15.00 hr. x 60)	\$900.00	GIK

Total Donations	\$29,022.59
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*http://independentsector.org/volunteer_time

Adopt Block of Aroostook

FINAL DRAFT

See a need and meet it,

Find a hurt and heal it.



Annual Report 2012

AABA— 56 MILITARY STREET, HOULTON ME 04730
T: 207-532-2783 X 102 E: AAB@HOULTONMSBC.ORG

MISSION STATEMENT & GOALS

MISSION STATEMENT:

To impact our communities by bringing hope and love one block at a time, by assisting with food, clothing needs, life-skills education and Project Prevention...Keeping Families Together. It's about giving a "hand-up" not a "hand-out."

GOAL:

The goal of Adopt-A-Block is to become a nonprofit coalition and partnership of local churches, town government, the Houlton Police Department, local businesses, community associations, a diversity of service and health agencies, and residents who collaborate to bring restoration to our town and surrounding communities, block by block. Our goal is to effectively meet the varying needs of the individual, the family, and their community spiritually, emotionally, mentally, and physically.

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ADOPT-A-BLOCK OF AROOSTOOK BOARD MEMBERS:

PRESIDENT:	PASTOR RANDALL BURNS
VICE-PRESIDENT:	ALLEN GREEN
TREASURER:	LORI GARDINER
SECRETARY:	LISA SURRAN

2012 Treasurer's Report

Ending December 31, 2012

Balance, Overall Checking-December 31, 2011 **\$30,578.05**

Income

Public Support	\$3,120.94
United Way	\$20,000
Machias Savings	\$1,500
American Baptist Home Mission	\$1,000
Houlton Wesleyan Fundraiser	\$5,731.05
MSBC	\$7,982.85
(\$286 Memorial Fund, \$275.99 Shields)	
Checking Acct Interest	\$34.54

Total Expenses: \$45,351.04

Net income (5,981.66)

Balance, Overall Checking-December 31, 2012 **\$25,534.79**

2012 Partnerships

- ADOPT-A-BLOCK NORTH
- APAC/ACAP
- AID FOR KIDS
- BANGOR SAVINGS BANK
- CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF MAINE
- CELEBRATE RECOVERY
- DEPART. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
- GREATER HOULTON CHRISTIAN ACADEMY
- HOULTON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION
- HOULTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
- HOULTON SOUTHSIDE SCHOOL
- HOULTON HIGH SCHOOL
- HOULTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
- HOULTON ROTARY CLUB
- HOULTON TOWN OFFICE
- HOULTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
- HOULTON WESLEYAN CHURCH
- LIFE BY DESIGN
- LOS ANGELES DREAM CENTER
- MACHIAS SAVINGS BANK
- MILL POND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
- NORTHERN LIGHTHOUSE
- PINE TREE LEGAL SERVICES
- PREGNANCY CARE CENTER
- STEP-UP! FAMILY RESOURCES
- STEPPING STONES
- WINGS

	2011 Budget	2011 ACTUAL	2012 Budget	2012 ACTUAL	2013 PROPOSED
Corporate and Business Grants		\$19,400.00		\$1,500.00	\$9,500.00
Non- Profit Organization Grants				\$1,000.00	
Designated Income				\$2,579.99	
Individual/Business Contributions				\$7,782.86	\$10,000.00
United Way		\$10,000.00		\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00
Interest Income		\$19.16		\$30.08	
Special Events/Fundraising Income		\$3,534.40		\$5,731.05	\$12,000.00
Direct Public Support		\$4,555.35			
Indirect Public Support		\$132.43			
Miscellaneous Income		\$60.00			
Program Income		\$10,027.32			

Net Income:	\$21,970.93	(\$3,631.93)
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2013 BUDGET

AAB BUDGET WORKSHEET

EXPENSES:	2011 Budget	2011 ACTUAL	2012 Budget	2012 ACTUAL	2013 PROPOSED
Business Expenses	\$5,070.00	\$1,130.46	\$2,500.00	\$245.00	\$250.00
Fundraising Expenses				\$71.58	\$1,000.00
Special Events:					
Block Party				\$2,610.52	\$1,700.00
Christmas	\$750.00	\$967.97	\$1,500.00	\$1,774.22	\$650.00
Thanksgiving	\$1,500.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,500.00	\$3,052.32	\$3,000.00
Outreach:					
After School Program				\$1,140.88	\$1,500.00
Boy's Camp	\$1,742.63	\$2,238.89	\$5,000.00	\$3,751.75	\$4,000.00
Miscellaneous				\$743.56	\$750.00
Supplies				\$375.08	\$400.00
Program Expense	\$0.00	\$2,284.88	\$4,000.00	\$0.00	
Benevolence				\$1,986.75	\$1,200.00
Fees/Permits/Food Pantry	\$0.00	\$250.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
Outside Services/Acctng/Legal	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,200.00	\$500.00	\$1,000.00
Equipment Rental					
Insurance					
Rent/Parking/Utilities	\$1,000.00	\$2,070.67	\$5,000.00	\$4,445.98	\$5,000.00
Advertising	\$1,000.00	\$1,545.69	\$1,500.00	\$182.80	\$1,500.00
Books/Subscript/Resources				\$11.38	\$100.00
Office Supplies				\$47.42	\$125.00
Postage				\$17.00	\$50.00

AAB BUDGET WORKSHEET CON'T					
EXPENSES:	2011 Budget	2011 ACTUAL	2012 Budget	2012 ACTUAL	2013 PROPOSED
Printing/Copying					
Telephone/Internet				\$407.99	\$325.00
Operations - Other					
Miscellaneous	\$1,000.00	\$1,337.17	\$2,000.00	\$473.55	\$350.00
Other Expenses					
Staff/Volunteer Expenses	\$0.00	\$145.00	\$750.00	\$1,227.51	\$1,200.00
Use Tax Expense				\$83.00	\$200.00
Payroll Tax Expense	\$6,250.00	\$1,600.00	\$1,800.00	\$1,580.51	\$1,600.00
Wages	\$18,750.00	\$10,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$20,677.50	\$23,000.00
Employee Benefits	\$12,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Conferences/Mtgs/Cont Ed.				\$155.05	\$1,000.00
Meals & Entertainment				\$88.34	\$100.00
Travel & Lodging	\$100.00	\$187.00	\$300.00	\$776.97	\$1,000.00
Total Expenses:	\$50,162.63	\$25,757.73	\$48,550.00	\$46,926.66	\$51,550.00

NOTES:

HIGHLIGHTS IN 2012

1. **Just 4 Boys Summer Camp-** In its second year this program for “at risk” 7-12 year old boys was a huge success. After doing a two week pilot program we planned to go to a four week program this summer and that is exactly what we did. This program was created after seeing a need in our blocks for boys who either had no father in the home or no father in their lives at all.
2. **United Way-** In July we received funding from United Way for a staff position for the second year in a row. This position has been critical in overseeing the daily operations and expanding programs as well as gaining other funding through grants.
3. **4th annual AAB Back to School Block Party:** over 225 book bags full of school supplies were given out to children in 7 communities. Close to 1,000 attended that event. We were also able to take backpacks to three different schools in 2 communities.
4. **The Community Breakfast** is continuing to grow and we see many coming from the blocks and other communities in our area. We take turns with the Houlton Wesleyan Church every other month.
5. **Catholic Charities of Maine:** We were approved to receive food once a month starting in October. \$47 dollars a month for about 40 cases of food. The yearly cost is \$500. Food was distributed to many in multiple communities, including some local agencies. We estimate between 3 ½ -4 tons of food was given away.
6. **Block Statistics:** In 2012 we maintained the blocks we have adopted. Our goal is to go deeper not just wider, and build relationships with our families. Some families move from our blocks but we continue to see them and help them so we have additional families this year. The total number of individuals on our blocks is always in flux but at the time of this report we have 245. The number served over this past year is 4,527 units. (times served) give 2012
7. **Life Skills Training Classes:** In September we partnered with RSU #29 school district to fill a need for an afterschool program because of an early out on Tuesdays for teachers training. We launched a pilot program after school on Tuesdays from 2-5 pm. Students are bused to the church where they participate in activities such as, science, music, drama, homework help, healthy snacks and much more. This program is called “It’s All About Choices” afterschool program. We have built the foundation on the 6 Pillars of Character.
8. **The Multiplication Factor:** In 2012 we helped train a group in Virginia who launched an AABA. They are going strong a year later and we are able to Skype quarterly to offer assistance and training.
9. **Volunteers-** Without volunteers the program could not exist. We have 6 volunteer staff that cover, Gifts in Kind, Door 2 Door Outreach, After Care Angels, pick up and distribution, bookkeeping and many others each month. The total of volunteer hours recorded in 2012 was 2,470 hours, which is valued at \$40,705.60 (http://independentsector.org/volunteer_time) We are also partnering with Houlton High School to work with two JMG (Jobs for Maine Grads) students through the school year. They volunteer about 30 hours a month each or 600 volunteer hours.

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ ~ Matthew 22:37-39

ANNUAL SPECIAL EVENTS:



This year's Block Party was the biggest to date! Hundreds of people flooded Monument Park where fresh produce, clothing, hair cuts, food, games, bounce houses, face painting, prizes and Ice Cream were given away...and it was all FREE!!!!

225 BACKPACKS FULL OF SCHOOL SUPPLIES WERE GIVEN TO CHILDREN!

7 COMMUNITIES WERE SERVED

70+ VOLUNTEERS HELPED TO MAKE IT ALL POSSIBLE!

At Thanksgiving nearly 150 thanksgiving boxes were given to families in...

7 different towns and a total of nearly...

75 volunteers helped to put all the boxes together and deliver them.

Family Christmas portraits were taken FREE of charge to families on the blocks!

Over 100 food bags were given out at Christmas this year to needy families.

117 Gifts were donated for children by the members of Military Street Baptist Church...**Gift Bags for 100** adult block members were donated by the members of the Houlton Wesleyan Church.

Nearly 200 toys were donated for children ages 4-12 by the Toys 4 Tots program in Houlton.

78 Turkeys were given to families in need along with additional food boxes.

"Never worry about numbers. Help one person at a time and always start with the person nearest you." — Mother Teresa