

## 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 Community of Hope  
Affiliation with ABCUSA Rivergate Community Church  
Address 4737 N Lombard St, Portland, OR 97203  
Phone 503.852.1070 Federal Tax ID# 27-1632045 (Community of Hope's  
fiscal sponsor, Compassion Connect 93-0583269 (Rivergate Community Church  
Contact person Linda Jo Devlaeminck email lindajo@communityofhopepdx.org

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 \$4932 for this project, 49,716 for a year's expenses

5. Amount being requested from the ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant \$4932

6. Your other funding source(s) donations, grants (applied for), residents' contributions

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) \_\_\_\_\_ Date 8-29-13

Printed Name/Title Linda Jo Devlaeminck

**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.



## Community of Hope 2014 Budget

	Item	Yearly totals	Grant application
<b>INCOME</b>	Fundraising events	5,500	
	Contributions pledged	5,100	
	Residents' contributions	4,800	
	Bedding and towel donations	3,600	
	Utilities donation	6,000	
	Grants applied for	*32,000	
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>*57,000</b>	
<b>EXPENSES</b>	Client Services: Emergencies and classes	1,932	1,932
	Facilities: Utilities, bedding and towels.	9,600	
	Training	400	
	Business	3,584	
	Payroll	33,000	
	Fund Raising	1,200	
	Renovation: supplies and building permits		2000
	Conditional use permit		1000
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>49,716</b>	<b>4932</b>

\*We have applied for grants totally \$32,000, including this one, but we have not yet received word about whether we will receive them. We will make up shortfalls from grants not received by decreasing expenses and/or moving funds from our capital fund to operating expenses as we continue to pursue other funding sources.

## **Our Mission Statement**

As a Christ centered association, the Community of Hope will support North Portland homeless families. We will build on the strengths families already have while providing housing, classes, resources, and mentoring. This support will help parents to hold a job, manage finances, steer clear of addictions, develop positive relationships, grow in parenting skills, and make healthy life choices, all in the context of Christian community.

## **Our Plan for the Use of These Funds**

The Community of Hope is a program that serves North Portland homeless single mothers and their families. We are asking for \$4932, to pay for the installation of showers and laundry facilities, the permits to change the zoning to meet city requirements, and for classes and emergencies.

There is a great need for this service. Portland Public Schools has identified over 150 families in North Portland that are homeless. There are no transitional housing programs in our neighborhood that serve most families with children. Several churches in North Portland, including Rivergate Community Church, decided to do something to meet this need by opening the Community of Hope this fall. Carren Woods, Rivergate's pastor, is on the board.

The Community of Hope will provide both shelter and support for change that can lead to stable living situations for four or five homeless single mothers and their children. As they battle poverty and its effects, we will offer classes, mentoring, and support groups to help train families in skills that will support their journey toward long-term stability and better relationships. As a result of this program, there will be fewer families continuing the generational poverty that is growing in our society and more families able to make a contribution to our neighborhood.

We will use space donated by area churches. Red Sea Church is providing overnight space every night and rooms for classes, childcare, and meals several days each week after school. St. Johns Christian Church will provide space other days, and other churches will fill in when they are both full. We have one staff person and many volunteers who provide overnight care, child care, meals, extra classes, and many other services. We are partnering with several agencies to provide classes and take referrals.

We believe that offering this program as a faith based initiative will support the families we serve to make real and permanent changes in their lives. Change is hard. For many families, adding the spiritual component will make a vital difference. The tools we share will help them make changes even without the spiritual component if they choose not to use it. The

motivation of loving service by the volunteers and staff will give support and encouragement to all the families we serve.

August 29, 2013

American Baptist Churches USA  
Mission Resource Development  
Matthew 25 Grant

Dear Matthew 25 Grant Fund,

I am the Senior Pastor at Rivergate Community Church. We are an American Baptist Church that has been serving the North Portland community for 60+ years. I have been at Rivergate for 12 years next month and have been praying for the opportunity to make a difference in the local community. North Portland has been a tremendously under-served part of town for decades. There is generational poverty in this community, and we as the church, have not done a good job of responding to the needs.

A little over two years ago I started meeting with a group of pastors from other small churches in North Portland. We did a survey to identify unmet needs in our community and found that there were no programs that addressed the housing need in North Portland. We began to pray together as a group and to seek what the Lord would have us do. During that time it became clear that a transitional housing program which was focused on Christian principles that could change this pattern of poverty was what the Lord was asking us to provide. We have continued to meet with other churches, non-profits and city leaders to come up with a plan that addresses this critical need.

Community of Hope is the outcome of those meetings and prayer. We knew that we needed to have a separate group that would oversee this program, and I serve on the board of directors for this ministry. In addition, we have many of our Rivergate church members who are volunteering for the program. We are also helping to coordinate the fundraising efforts for Community of Hope. We are excited that Red Sea Church has opened its doors to allow us to make some renovations that will allow us to house 4-5 mothers with children in their facility. The grant funds would be used to help cover those costs of installing showers and laundry facilities for the families.

The Lord has led us on this journey for the past 2+ years, and the reality is now in sight. We just need some funds to cover these expenses and then we will be able to open the doors to families this fall. We know from other similar programs that this will change the lives of these families and open the door for them to find and secure permanent housing and employment. There are no large churches in our part of town, so it has taken a group of small churches coming together to get this project off the ground. I am honored that Rivergate Community Church has been part of this ministry, and I am excited to see what the Lord will continue to do in North Portland.

I believe that the Matthew 25 funds requested for this project will change lives in North Portland. I hope that the committee will be able to support this project with a grant this year. Thank you in advance for your time and consideration. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me,

503.928.1178 or by email [carrenwoods@comcast.net](mailto:carrenwoods@comcast.net).

In Christ,

Rev. Carren E. Woods

Senior Pastor

Rivergate Community Church

4737 N Lombard, Portland, OR 97203 – Member ABC CPC