

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: **Pleasant Hill Missionary Baptist church**

Affiliation with ABCUSA

Address **155 Humboldt Avenue, Dorchester, MA 02121**

Phone **(617) 427-0905**

Federal Tax ID# **04-3288370**

Contact person **Miniard Culpepper, Pastor, PHBC.**

email **pleasantchurch2@aol.com**

2. Please submit with your application a copy of:

- Your mission statement. **(See Attachment 1).**
- 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. **(See Attachment 2)**

3. How do you plan to use the requested funds? How will the funds specifically assist individuals battling poverty and its effects? **(See Attachment 3)**

4. Total cost of the

project **\$6050**

5. Amount being requested from the ABCUSA Matthew 25

Grant **\$5000**

6. Your other funding source(s) in-kind

contributions **\$1050**

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 **8/29/14**

Printed Name/Title: **Miniard Culpepper, Pastor, Pleasant Hill Baptist Church**

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. Only electronic submissions will be accepted.



ATTACHMENT 1- MISSION STATEMENT OF PHBC WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Our mission is to support the spiritual development of the women at Pleasant Hill Baptist Church (PHBC) and promote team building amongst our membership by:

- Supporting and encouraging attendance at Tuesday night bible class, Wednesday night --prayer meeting, Sunday bible school and service, and vacation bible school;

- Creating a support system for PHBC women to succeed at having an active prayer life;

- Encouraging participation in PHBC and non PHBC sponsored activities, e.g., bible conferences and Christian Book Clubs;

- Hosting women's retreats; and

- Supporting other ministries, e.g., Youth, Missionary, and Health & Wellness Ministries through our active participation in the implementation of their programs.

ATTACHMENT 3 – PROJECT TO BE FUNDED.

Background: Our partnership with ‘On with Living and Learning’ (OWLL) under the leadership of Dr. Mary Driscoll has allowed us to provide services to community youth including children of incarcerated parents (COIP) through a pilot project this summer. The pilot was administered through the Women’s Ministry at Pleasant Hill Baptist Church with funding from The Boston Foundation. The goal of the pilot, **“Community Conversations: A Youth Perspective”** was to help empower our youth through artistic explorations. It consisted of a workshop that met once a week during the month of August and included activities such as writing and reading exercises, spoken word, theatre activities, and collaborative learning and sharing. A final presentation which is scheduled to occur in September will allow the youth to present on the learning that took place over the summer.

As a longer term strategy, this pilot was indeed a novel way for PHBC to use the Arts as an outlet for the youth to manage emotional stress, promote community cohesion and be empowered to express their cultural identity. And by all indications, we believe we are on the right path. We catered to ten youth and based on the feedback that we received, e.g. “It was much better than I expected,” “I’m looking forward to a longer program,” we were motivated to seek additional funding to both widen the reach and extend the project to six months. Our ultimate goal is to be able to extend this project to a year-long program.

Proposed Project: Youth Perspectives’ Project will comprise of a series of eight 2-hour leadership skills-based theatre workshops as a follow-up to the summer pilot and will culminate in a production which will be showcased at Hibernian Hall’s, 1st Annual Elevated Arts Festival in Roxbury, MA. March 2015. This festival is a city-wide effort to promote cultural improvements through the arts.

Under the leadership of our visionary Pastor, Reverend Miniard Culpepper, we have embraced OWLL’s youth project. We believe it has demonstrated the urgent need for more effective services which are instrumental in the development of youth leaders in our community. Community youth leaders add to the social capital of our community. They exemplify that anything is possible, regardless of life’s circumstance and serve as role models to other youth. And through the engaging and thought-provoking performances and discussion with the audience, these youth will provide diverse community members with unique insights that more often than not, inspire change.

Connections between the proposed program and the ‘war on poverty.’ The majority of the youth served by the PHBC Theatre Arts program are residents of Dorchester and Roxbury neighborhoods with a greater representation from Roxbury which has a poverty level of 26.6% compared to Boston (19.5%) and Massachusetts (7.7%). Through exposure to the theatre arts program, these youth leaders will become formidable advocates for the prevention of social and environmental ills in their community, particularly in those communities that are disproportionately impacted by crime, violence, illicit drug use, truancy and environmental pollution, which are all indicators of a culture of poverty and despair. Indeed, the emphasis on social capital for this project is consistent with Mathew 25:14-30, ESV, the parable of the ten talents. If we invest in our youth, the rewards can manifest multifold. However, if we bury the talents by not investing in them, they will inherit a blighted future and we would have failed as good stewards. Lastly, because of the potential exposure to a diverse community through the arts, we hope that this work with the youth will also help to heal racial tensions and improve safety in all of our communities.

ATTACHMENT 2 –PROJECT BUDGET

Personnel	Cost/month	6-month Project	In-kind
Program Coordinator	\$100	\$300	\$300
Instructors (2)	\$100/instructor	\$1200	
Stipends (15)	\$30/mth/youth	\$2700	
Travel:			
(R/T MBTA Fare			
For 15 youth, 8 workshops)	\$5/youth/workshop	\$600	
Supplies:			
Journals, pens, pencils			\$100
Miscellaneous			
Reproduction/Printing			\$100
Indirect Cost			
10% of project cost			\$550
Total Cost		\$6050	

Budget Detail

Program Coordinator, Dr. Driscoll. The overall project will be managed by Dr. Driscoll who will leverage OWLL's resources and will provide in kind services and outreach for 50% of her time. Dr. Driscoll's responsibility include coordinating meetings, the planning and supervision of workshop instructors as well as the overall artistic direction of the production. Dr. Driscoll will also coordinate with Pastor Miniard Culpepper, PHBC and the following members of PHBC Women's Ministry, Rhona Julien and Angela Savannah.

Workshop Instructors, Marybeth Makara and Forrest Walter are responsible for conducting the workshops and creative instruction to workshop participants. Instructors will also provide technical assistance with the final presentation.

Youth participants will each receive a stipend of \$30 for each session that s/he participates in. Expected number of youth for the extended program is 15. Each participant will also receive \$5 for the R/T fare for T services for each session that they attend.