

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 Shell Ridge Community Church _____

Affiliation with ABCUSA Yes

Address: 200 La Casa Via, Walnut Creek, CA 94598

Phone: 925-935-3250

Federal Tax ID# 23-7386877

Contact Person: Mary Hogan

email: hoganpls@aol.com

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 \$8,600 (with reduced cost food donations from agencies)

5. Amount being requested from the ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant \$4,300 _____

6. Your other funding source(s): Shell Ridge Congregation, Partner Congregation B'nai, Guest community members contributions, Food at greatly reduced costs through community agencies such as Monument Crisis Center, Loaves and Fishes, and the Food Bank

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

8/29/2014

Printed Name/Title. Dr. Liliana Da Valle, Interim Pastor _____

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.



2. MISSION STATEMENT

- The Shell Ridge Baptist Church will provide food security for children at the poverty level who are left without the safety net of school breakfasts and lunches during vacation breaks, weekends, and holidays.
- We will raise awareness of food deficiencies in Contra Costa County and the role Shell Ridge Baptist Church has in the interfaith community of churches that are working to provide for children's food security.

Shell Ridge Community Church is partnering with Congregation B'nai, the food security group, Let's Feed the Kids, and community organizations such as the Monument Crisis Center in Concord, CA and Loaves and Fishes in five locations in Contra Costa County .

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

- With the reduced food cost and food donations we are able to provide a family of five with a meal bag that consists of breakfast for \$5.00 and dinner for \$5.00 for a daily cost of \$10.00

In our summer pilot program we provided a weekly food bag to 40 families for 7 weeks

Although the need is even greater, our goal is to biblically multiply the number of families served by 3

This will provide 7 weeks (summer, breaks, holidays, long weekend) of food bags for 120 families
The total cost for providing the food will be

120 families x10.00 each family x7weeks = \$8,400.

This is our goal, if we exceed this goal then we will extend the program for more weeks.

- We will add a \$200.00 budget for publicity. Postage, paper, marking pens, web schedule subscription. Our partners will also provide publicity. 200.
- Packing/transportation/distribution will be done through 40 or more volunteers from the partnering congregations.

Total cost of program: \$ 8,600

3. PLAN TO USE THE REQUESTED FUNDS

Providing one meal a week to families at the poverty level in Contra Costa County will allow children in those families to continue their good nutrition while school is not in session (weekends, vacation breaks, holidays). These families have access to food banks in the area, but they count on school meals to complete their children's nutritional needs. The parents often work at two or more jobs or are looking for jobs or are jobless and must take multiple forms of transportation to get to the Food Bank distribution sites. If parents get to the lines, they often arrive at the lines when the distribution is completed or depleted. Our system of visible Shell Ridge Baptist Church volunteers, and selection at the Community Service agencies of needy children, guarantees that when the responsible needy adult appears, a bag filled with enough food for 2 daily meals for five people is waiting. The bags contain only healthy items such as eggs, oatmeal, potatoes, peanut butter (we check for allergies), fresh fruit, beans, rice, fresh vegetables, and bread. We do not send home processed, boxed food with high levels of sugar.

It is unacceptable to Shell Ridge Baptist Church to take no action when under the eyes of Christ our children go hungry. This project is a pilot project for other congregations to follow and it is building momentum of support to ensure food security for children.

Shell Ridge Baptist Church partnered with "Let's Feed the Kids" and B'nai Congregation this summer for a pilot program for 7 weeks for 40 families. Given the success of this program we would like to have the financial resources to continue and expand our work with community partners. We need to multiply the number of families served by 3 to serve 120 families. Each family is set as a group of five people so we will be serving approximately 600 people (smaller 2 people families are multiplied together and receive the equivalent of 1 bag) Our most inspiring quote of the summer was the small boy who looked in the food bag with very big eyes and said, "Daddy, we finally get to have bread." One inspiring outcome in the community was the announcement at a local college that "Shell Ridge Baptist Church, Congregation B'nai and Let's Feed the Kids are an inspiration to the community".

At the same time, and in cooperation with the Contra Costa County Interfaith Council, we will challenge the community to live for a week on \$4.28 per day as a means to raise awareness and empathy about this issue in our community.

At this point, our church is also exploring other steps to supply needs and create community concern and action.