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: Washington Street Baptist Church Affiliation with ABCUSA: The American Baptist Churches of Massachusetts Address: 256 Washington St. Lynn, MA 01902 Phone: 781-595-2550 Federal Tax ID#042-210-478 Contact person: Rev. Eric Nelson email: lynnbaptistchurch@gmail.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: \$2500.00
- 5. Amount being requested from the ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant: \$2500.00
- 6. Your other funding source(s): church and private donations, Judson Baptist Association

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) Eric C.B. Nelson Date: August 12, 2014

Printed Name/Title: Rev. Eric C.B. Nelson, 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 <u>beth.fogg@abc-usa.org</u>.
 Only electronic submissions will be accepted.





Logo for Kids Club

MISSION STATEMENT

Church Mission Statement: We are a family of faith, bound by God's love, following Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord as we worship and grow together. Called to join god in God's saving mission to the world and relying upon God's empowering Spirit, we go forth to serve and build the Beloved Community in Jesus' name.

Kids Club Mission Statement: Given Jesus' command to love our neighbor as ourselves, we reach out to the children of our neighborhood, seeking to provide a loving and safe place where they can grow in their education as well as become followers of Jesus Christ. Our goal is to encourage children to be all that God wants them to be.

The children who attend our Kids Club program face many issues, coming not just from poverty and immigrant families. They also live in a neighborhood around the church that is filled with gangs, drugs, prostitution and so on. Our program's goal is to give them as place to get away from the street and to help them build strong, spiritual roots to better face these challenges.

WASHINGTON STREET BAPTIST CHURCH

KIDS CLUB BUDGET SEPT 2014 TO AUGUST 2015

BUDGET
-
1,000.00
3,000.00
5,000.00
4,780.00
5,000.00
18,780.00
BUDGET
11,025.00
5,000.00
-
\$1,200.00
17,225.00
BUDGET
\$2,000.00
2,000.00
1,000.00
1,500.00
2,400.00
3,000.00
500.00
600.00
13,000.00
\$18,780
\$30,225.00
445,00

HOW WE PLAN TO USE THE REQUESTED FUNDS

We plan to use the requested funds to help fund meals and snacks for our afterschool program for children in poverty called "Kids Club."

Kids Club begins meeting in October, Monday through Thursday each week. Staff gathers at 2 p.m. to begin making preparations for the afternoon and the children begin arriving at 2:30 p.m. The daily program ends at 5 p.m.

On average, 25 children attend, ages 5-11. The children and youth are from backgrounds of poverty, who live in the inner city neighborhood of our church. They are of various races, including Caucasian, African American, Cambodian and Latino, with the major race being Latino. Many come from families who are recent immigrants. The program is free for the children who attend.

When the children arrive, they come into the Kids Club room to do their homework for the day. They sit around several tables and the staff helps them as needed. We particularly emphasize developing reading skills as many do not read well. Following homework, the Director leads a sharing time, in which they hear a Bible story and talk about how it applies to their lives. This may be followed by a craft which relates to the story. This sharing time is called "The Launch Pad," and the point is to encourage the children to grow and develop according to God's plan for their lives. After the sharing time, the children may go into our Fellowship Hall for organized games. On good days, they may be taken outside to play basketball or some other game in our church parking lot.

In addition to the week day activities, field trips are planned as enrichment events. We have gone to the Museum of Science, Plimouth Plantation, the Boston Aquarium, the Marine Center in Nahant, MA, among other places.

Each Wednesday, the children are given a nutritious meal, prepared by a member of the church. Menus have included Salisbury steak, chicken fettuccini, hamburgers, and turkey. They are also served vegetables, potato or rice and a dessert. We feel it is important to have a good meal at least once a week, as some of the children come from homes where they do not get proper nutrition. The cook is an unpaid volunteer from the church.

The funds requested would go to help support our Wednesday meal, as well as provide healthy snacks.