

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: The Rutba House

Affiliation with ABCUSA: The Rutba House is a ministry partner of Watts Street Baptist Church, an ABC congregation in Durham, NC. The Rutba House has a formal fiscal sponsor relationship with Watts Street in which the church receives donations for charitable purposes on our behalf. The Missions Committee of WSBC suggested that we apply for this grant.

Address: 1011 Onslow Street, Durham, NC 27705

Phone: 919-768-7541

Federal Tax ID# The Rutba House is not a tax exempt organization. Tax-deductible donations for our charitable purposes can be made to us through Watts Street Baptist Church.

Contact person: Rev. Sarah Jobe **Email** sarah.jobe@duke.edu

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.) See “Request” Section in the following narrative.

4. Total cost of the project:

Hospitality & Charitable Giving	\$19,610
<u>Non-Charitable Expenses</u>	<u>\$80,290</u>
Total Budget	\$99,900

See below for details about these costs and the difference between our charitable and non-charitable expenses.

5. Amount being requested from the ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant \$3,570

6. Your other funding source(s)

Rutba House Member contributions, individual donors, and local churches

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) *Sarah C. Jobe*

Date 8-28-14

Printed Name/Title Rev. Sarah C. Jobe

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.



The Rutba House Community

2014 Plan for Hospitality and Charitable Giving

Introduction. Started in August 2003, The Rutba House Community is a group of single people, married couples, and families living together in three Christian Houses of Hospitality in the Walltown Neighborhood of Durham, NC. We are committed to sharing lives of discipleship, peace-making, and hospitality that we learn from Jesus and his disciples. We share a common weekly rhythm of prayers, meetings and meals. We share our finances, cars, and other possessions. We also keep rooms open in our homes for people who need a place to stay. We have three dedicated long-term hospitality rooms and two short-term hospitality rooms within our community for individuals facing homelessness. We provide for all of the food and housing needs of our guests. We also resource our guests with access to phone and internet services as they work to build the lives that we believe God has envisioned for them. We accept men, women and children as guests. We do not focus our hospitality on any given category of person. We have had people come to us from prison, recovering from addiction, suffering from homelessness due to the economic downturn, emancipated teens, and other people who for various reasons find themselves struggling to put together the basic needs for life. ***We are looking for partners to help us with the financial aspects of supporting our guests.***

Learning about the Matthew 25 Grant was particularly meaningful to us as a community because our mission comes to us from Matthew 25:

Mission. The Rutba House seeks to live a common life in which we welcome others into our homes for friendship, shelter, food, and shared life believing that Jesus Christ comes to us through the strangers that we welcome.

Request. ***We are asking that the Matthew 25 Grant consider helping us support the utility expenses and living expenses of one guest for one year. That cost is \$3,570, and all of that money would go directly to resourcing a person who is working to move out of poverty.*** We are committed to having our guests transition from Rutba House into stable and life-giving environments in which they are set up for success. We believe that the best way to do that is to provide a period in a person's life in which their daily needs are provided, freeing them to find work, heal from the wounds of instability, and save for their future. Because all of the members of Rutba House are committed to living simply, we sometimes struggle to find the money to support our guests while they are with us. Your financial help would enable us to continue to offer space in our homes for people who need a place to live.

Because the Rutba House is a Christian community in which members live alongside those in need, the community's wider budget includes non-charitable expenses like the basic needs of the members themselves. We only request financial help and partnership for the portions of our budget that go toward Hospitality and Charitable Giving. Member contributions account for the non-charitable balance of our budget as follows.

2014 Rutba House Budget

Hospitality & Charitable Giving	\$19,610
Non-Charitable Expenses	\$80,290
Total Budget	\$99,900

Hospitality & Charitable Giving Budget

Expense Category	Estimated Amount
Utility Expenses <i>(\$870 annually per guest for 3 long-term guests)</i>	\$2,610
Living Expenses <i>(\$2,700 annually per guest for 3 long-term guests)</i>	\$8,100
Community Meals <i>(\$40 per meal for 200 meals annually)</i>	\$8,000
Direct Aid	\$900
Total Estimated Expenses	\$19,610

Note: Rutba House can provide historical expense data to support this budget upon request. Projected budgets are based on historical actual expenditures and the next year's program changes.

Explanation of Expense Categories

Utility Expenses. Utility Expenses include electricity, gas, water, internet access, and phone access for our guests.

Living Expenses. Living Expenses include groceries, administrative costs, and the cost of running our community garden. Because our long-term guests are often coming to us with no job, housing, or access to food, we budget to provide for all of the food needs for our long term guests. We also run a community garden. The produce from that garden supplements our grocery budget, and the garden provides a space for community gatherings, prayer and meditation.

Community Meals. We host four Community Meals each week. These meals feed members, longer-term and short-term guests, local people interested in Christian community, and food-insecure neighbors and friends. We offer four meals per week for 50 weeks out of the year.

Direct Aid. We provide Direct Aid for friends and neighbors who need help with rent and utility bills. We have helped to buy books and school supplies for neighborhood children and long-term guests who are pursuing education. We sometimes offer matching grants to long-term guests who are saving for their lives after Rutba House.