

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: Church of the Master
Affiliation with ABCUSA: American Baptist Churches of Greater Indianapolis (ABCGI)
Address 1620 N Girls School Road
Indianapolis, IN 46214
Phone: O: (317) 271-2537 C: (317) 370-3049 Federal Tax ID# 35-1480220
Contact person Rev. Brenda Darmelio email: jdbhoopin@sbcglobal.net

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 \$9,180

5. Amount being requested from the ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant \$4,180.

6. Your other funding source(s) Computers donated by another donor; specified gifts from congregation; donated labor from White Oak Construction; requested In-Kind donation from Bytecafe

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) Rev Brenda Darmelio Date 8/27/14

Printed Name/Title: Rev. Brenda Darmelio, Associate 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.





Vision Statement

Church of the Master desires to reflect Jesus in everyday life. We seek relationships that enrich lives as we compassionately serve our community and beyond.

We will begin the journey of living out our vision in two areas:

Community Outreach

- Continuing our support of Wayne Township Schools
- Continuing our efforts of forming connections with area ethnic groups
- Providing educational opportunities that meet needs

Discipleship

- Improving and deepening our relationship with God through our risen savior, Jesus Christ
- Extending and modeling the teachings of Jesus to our community

ESTIMATED BUDGET FOR COMMUNITY COMPUTER LAB PROJECT

Computers (10)	\$4,000 (Donor provided thru Brenda's connection)
Monitors, keyboards, mice, etc. (10)	\$1,250
Desks, chairs, lighting	\$ 500
Printers (1-color, 1-black)	\$ 650
Networking, cabling, etc.	\$ 875
Computer set-up (Internet, printers, etc.)	\$ 625
Software (thru Tech Soup)	\$ 440 (Windows/MS Office Suite)
Internet (1-year)	\$ 360 (Comcast)
Secured storage for equipment (2)	\$ 480 (Staples Item: 486738)
TOTAL:	\$9,180

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PROJECT OVERVIEW AND DETAILS

– Church of the Master; Indianapolis, IN

Church of the Master (COM) is located on the West Side of Indianapolis which has grown along with greater Indianapolis as part of the 13th largest city in the United States. Our church property runs along the northern edge of Ben Davis High School, the second largest high school in Indiana with 4,000 students. Across from Ben Davis and 3 blocks south of COM is Chapelwood Elementary, which has 699 students, with 17 language groups represented designating Chapelwood as one of the most diverse (and low income) student populations in Indianapolis.

In the fall of 2013 we joined with 8 other ABCGI/ABCINKY churches to be part of the Missional Church Learning Experience. Last November we canvassed the West Side asking the question “What’s one or two things that could be done to make a positive difference here on the West Side?” The overwhelming response was for employment opportunities and resources. So COM made a MCLE grant application and was awarded a grant to provide funding for a Job and Resource Fair. We met with Chapelwood Principal Heather Pierce and other administrators and developed the framework for this event which will be at Chapelwood on Saturday, September 27th. We are partnering with other community resources to make this happen.

Part of our research for our MCLE project included several meetings with the Chapelwood administration. We learned that 84.94% of the students qualify for the federal free or reduced lunch program. Because the school hits this threshold, the school then qualifies for **100% free lunch for the entire school**. Because the K-12 schools are located with 1 mile of each other and nearby is a large concentration of relatively affordable housing options, Chapelwood Elementary has been designated a Title I school for refugee families. We also found 2012 U.S. census information telling us that 40% of the households within 3-miles of COM have an annual household income less than \$35,000 with 1/3 of those less than \$15,000 annually.

Over the past 3 years COM has increased their volunteer presence with Chapelwood including their monthly Food Pantry which is in addition to the twice monthly Food Pantry COM provides to the community. COM has provided lunches for the Math Bowl teams, homemade scarves for needy students, teacher appreciation gift bags, and apples for all teachers prior to the first day of school this year. Interim Pastor Jay Kennedy has also volunteered to create the main entry display cases including the current display which is advertising the Chapelwood Job & Resource Fair to all the students and their families.

As the MCLE team has been working on details for the Job and Resource Fair we found there were many barriers to Chapelwood families to find new or sustainable employment. One specific barrier was access to free computer use and Internet use. Chapelwood has one donated computer that is available to families when Michelle Stohler, the Title I Family Liaison, is in her office. The Wayne Township library is located a mile south of Chapelwood but has limited access to their 17 computers before 10am and after 8pm. (We did find that if you knock on the side door of the public library between 9-10am, the library staff will let you in to work on your resume.)

So we continued to see the need for access to computers and computer training for:

- 1) Chapelwood parents for resume writing, employment research and application, online tax filing, etc.
- 2) Chapelwood students for tutoring, summer break ongoing learning, homework, etc.
- 3) COM food pantry families (almost 100% Hispanic) for connecting to resources including employment
- 4) The Karen (Burmese) refugee families need access similar to that mentioned above. These families are part of Karen Baptist Fellowship that shares our building and partners with COM in ministries like Vacation Bible School, outdoor worship services, Youth Camping Trips, etc. KBF is also a member church of ABCGI.

Our Associate Pastor, Rev. Brenda Darmelio, has been working with the MCLE team and saw the increasing needs for community access for computers for the needy families within a 3-mile radius of COM. Brenda recently has located a donor for 10 laptops for a COM Computer Lab. Now COM is ready to take the final steps to complete a functioning computer lab located in the Educational Wing of COM that will allow access to our community of refugee and low-income families.

We were encouraged when it came to our attention that funding might be available for about half of the project through ABCUSA’s Matthew 25 grants. Our total budget is just over \$9,000 but the \$4,000 budgeted for computers will be covered by the donor. We believe we can get \$1,000 in cash or In-Kind donations leaving a balance of \$4,180 that we are requesting through this ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant application. We thank you for your prayerful consideration of our application.

COM truly believes we can help bridge the tremendous “digital divide” in our community through our community computer lab. As our refugee and low-income families access employment and other resources, our goal is they will obtain sustainable housing, provide nutritional meals, connect to online education, and access health options and information for their family.