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 Mount Vernon Baptist Church, Hurricane, WV BACKPACK MINISTRY
	Affiliation with ABCUSA <u>Member ABC USA & WV Baptist</u>
	Address 2150 Mount Vernon Road
	Hurricane, WV 25526
	Phone <u>304-757-9110</u> <u>304-542-4699</u> Federal Tax ID# <u>550594564001</u>
	Contact person Pastor Ron McClung email mccherd@aol.com
2. - -	Please submit with your application a copy of: Your mission statement (attached) 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. (attached)
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.) (att)
4.	Total cost of the project <u>Progjected 2015 \$21,200.00</u>
5.	Amount being requested from the ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant
6.	Your other funding source(s)
	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) <u>Rev. Ron McClung</u> Date <u>Dec 20, 2014</u>
	Printed Name/Title Pastor Ron McClung
	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. Please submit with your application a copy of:
- Your mission statement (attached)

- Our church, Mt Vernon Baptist Church, shares a common goal and uses this simple mission statement that follows. We attempt to have every other ministry fall under this statement and if it does not we re-evaluate as needed.
 - 1. Reach Up We worship, praise and adore Him in many ways. This happens publically and privately and is for all people.
- 2. Reach Out We feed the hungry, cloth the naked and give shelter as needed...we share food and the Good News, giving away the gospel at every opportunity. We want to reach our in service.
- 3. Reach In We must grow in our faith, in the Word, in discipleship and mature in Christ. We form groups, small and large to be taught and to teach others.
- 4. Reach Around We fellowship and carry the burdens of our church family and friends. We gather, enjoy the Lord and one another.

The Mission Statement for the "MVBC Backpack Ministry" is to:

Provide food for hungry children at Mt View Elementary School in the context of loving them and sharing God's love with their families too. Our method is a simple backpack filled with enough food to help them through the weekend, when otherwise they would go hungry. MVBC feels this is a ministry calling for us to the local area. It's a bridge to sharing food for their soul at some point.

- 2. Please submit with your application a copy of
- <u>A financial statement FOR THIS MINISTRY</u>. This can be a budget or projected budget, and should not exceed 2 pages. Church budgets are not acceptable. (attached)
 - 2.B. Financial Statement for "MVBC Backpack Ministry"

 'Under our Mt Vernon Church budget the last two years we have
 budgeted \$10,000.00 each year and spent that amount plus \$7,500.00 collected over and above the
 budget as this ministry area has grown and continues to grow. We are up to 106 children being
 fed over each weekend at the local elementary school, Mt View Elementary. The backpacks are
 packed each Wednesday night and delivered every Friday to the school filled with food. The
 weekly backpack cost is \$5.00 each per week per child. That is currently \$530.00 per week that
 MVBC carries alone. The projected 2015 budget needs for this ministry at 106 children is
 \$21,200.00 to cover 10 months. These children all come from low income situations and families,
 evaluated and suggested by the school and principle, Mrs. Sonya Shue. We supply granola bars,
 apple sauce, meat sticks, nuts, crackers, pudding and items in the reusable backpacks that will
 help them through the weekend. The church treasurer, Mrs. Vicki Arvidson, administrates the

finances, spending and purchasing while Mr. Jerry Payne and Mrs. Kathy Lilly handle the packing, transportation and distribution with a team of 3-4 helpers.

I think this ministry started 6-7 years ago with 20-25 children at the same school and has grown each year. The church has been willing to increase the budget but this one item in our Mission Budget is stretching us. We could use any help or assistance possible. There are no expenses or costs other than the food for the children...none for workers or administration.

Monies from the grant would be strictly food for kids."

Information & Contacts as needed:

Mt Vernon Baptist Church, 2150 Mt Vernon Road, Hurricane WV 25526 Pastor Ron McClung, 115 Candlewyck Drive, Hurricane, WV 25526

Principle Sonya Shue, Mount View Elementary School, 3967 Teays Valley Road, Hurricane, WV 25526 304-757-5667

Home: 33 Regent Street, Hurricane, WV 25526 304-757-8751

Mrs. Vicki Arvidson, Mt Vernon Treasurer 304-757-8645 304-541-4793 Mrs. Kathy Lilly, Mt Vernon 'Backpack Director' 304-545-3585 Mr. Jerry Payne, Mt Vernon Volunteer 304-586-2851

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.

I think I have already addressed this question under the explanation of the budget and where the money goes and how. But, the funds as mentioned will be strictly used to purchase food items to help each child receive a backpack on Friday that gives them meals through the weekend. The principle at the school provides us with a complete list and can inform us of any family situations she comes across and does so occasionally. But the children that receive backpacks are facing a shortage of food during the weekend period, especially because they have breakfast and lunch at the school during the week, so the weekend is a great need in a very real and practical way. We have had the opportunity to meet and get to know parents and families using this program. We are blessed to have 3-4 families that are at Mt Vernon with us now because of this outreach as well. Parents, many single parent situations, appreciate love and support for their children and have thanked us many times.

Proof of results comes every Friday when the children line up with eager joy to pick up their backpacks. To see 106 children every Friday take home the backpacks that will help them not go hungry over the weekend is the best thank you of all and our prayer is that God is glorified and honored in our service unto Him for these children.

We get to put information and flyers in the backpacks as often as we like to invite the families, encourage them and share the gospel with them too. For example this weekend, they are all invited to a free meal on Saturday at the church and a coat giveaway for Christmas.