

Lehigh Presbytery
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Application for a Lehigh Presbytery C-Change Mission and Evangelism Initiative Grant

Overview: Lehigh Presbytery desires to encourage individuals and small groups within the congregations of the Presbytery to identify the physical and/or spiritual needs of their community and develop mission and evangelistic initiatives to address at least one of them. Grants of up to \$5,000 for space and/or equipment rental, payments for facilitators or consultants, and miscellaneous expenses necessary to launch and maintain the initiative are available upon application to the Presbytery Lead Team (PLT) using this form. An application for a second C-Change grant of up to \$5,000 to the same recipient can be submitted after 12 months from the initial application date, but a second grant award is not guaranteed.

Mission initiatives should be based on three components: (1) “**in**” – How would the project foster a deeper connection with God? (2) “**with**” – How would project participants demonstrate care for one another? and (3) “**out**” – How would this project move into the surrounding community to express God’s love?

Process: In all cases the proponents of a mission or evangelism initiative will have spent time in prayer, discernment and fact-finding regarding the resources needed and the intended short- and long-term results. However, if the members of a congregation are only at the point of feeling the guidance of the Holy Spirit to “do something” to address spiritual and/or physical needs in their community, they should engage in a time of prayer, discernment and fact-finding regarding various needs, and create a plan to address one of them.

It is strongly recommended that the Mission Insite tool be used as a resource in fact-finding and planning. For more information on how to access this tool, please contact the Presbytery Office.

Before a grant application is submitted, each applicant (individual or group) shall confer with the Session of the particular congregation (or congregations, if applying cooperatively) to test God’s leading in this endeavor, and to receive the Session’s endorsement. The application shall also include measurable benchmarks to assess the project’s success.

Covenant: Upon approval of a grant application, a representative of the applicant and the PLT shall sign a covenant agreement acknowledging the purpose and action plan for the project, the evaluation benchmark(s), and the amount and distribution schedule for the grant. As a sign of reciprocal commitment to each mission initiative, Lehigh Presbytery will formally commission and pray regularly for the participants of each project.

Name of Congregation (or Congregations applying cooperatively): _____

Name of Session Clerk(s) and Contact information (Phone, Email, Address):

Session Endorsement Date(s):

Grant amount requested: \$ _____

Please attach a list of the types of expenditures anticipated.

Questions (Please include responses to the following questions along with signed application):

1. Describe the proposed Mission or Evangelism project, and how it is an expression of the three components of a Mission or Evangelism initiative (in, with, out).
2. Describe the discernment process, which resulted in the proposed project plan.
3. What needs (physical, spiritual, emotional, etc.) does this project address? What did you learn from Mission Insite about the needs of the community in which your congregation minister? If you did not use the Mission Insite resource, how did you learn about the needs of the community in which your congregation ministers?
4. What are five measurable benchmarks to assess the project's effectiveness?
5. How will this initiative be sustained and supported unto the future without C-Change monies?

Additional Questions if applying for a second C-Change grant award:

1. Describe how this initiative has met the needs of the community in which your congregation ministers.
2. Describe the effectiveness of the initiative according to the five measurable benchmarks named in your initial application. If the initiative has not been effective per these particular benchmarks, how will your leadership and administration of the initiative adapt in efforts of becoming more effective?
3. Has the energy level and participation of the members of the congregation in this initiative increased or decreased since the initial C-Change award was granted? To what do you attribute this change? Describe how the Session and congregation are committed to sustain this initiative beyond this season of grant subsidy.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____
(Clerk of Session)

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____
(Clerk of Session, if multiple congregations applying cooperatively)

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____
(Clerk of Session, if multiple congregations applying cooperatively)

Grant distribution schedule:

One payment upon application approval ____ **Other** _____

Date application submitted: _____ **Date application approved:** _____