

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
EVANGELICAL OUTREACH AND CONGREGATIONAL MISSION
APPLICATION FOR PARTNERSHIP SUPPORT GRANTS
(For Use By ELCA Congregations)

- I. **INTRODUCTION** - The ELCA Evangelical Outreach and Congregational Mission unit is commissioned to provide leadership and support for the ELCA as it reaches out in witness to the Gospel in the areas served by the synods of this church. The unit provides assistance and support to synods for outreach planning, develops new congregations and offers support to congregations that are involved in renewal for the church through change and growth that leads to expanded capacity to serve their communities through outreach with the Gospel. Congregations that can demonstrate financial need and have a defined plan for outreach may apply for a partnership support grant from the unit through the synod.
- II. **GRANT ACTIVITIES** - Grants must be used to directly address and meet the criteria for at least one of the unit's major grant categories. The Director for Evangelical Mission can provide summary and detailed descriptions of grant activities.
- III. **REQUIREMENTS** - To be considered for a grant, the congregation must:
1. Have a well-thought-out plan for outreach with clearly stated goals, objectives and time lines.
 2. Directly address one of the stated program activities.
 3. Demonstrate the financial need for grant support.
 4. Prove the potential capacity for achieving the stated objectives.
 5. Have congregational approval.
 6. Secure approval of the synod Outreach Committee.
 7. Be willing to enter into a signed partnership with the unit and/or synod.
- IV. **PROCESS** - Grant applications should be prepared with the guidance of the Evangelical Outreach and Congregational Mission unit Director for Ev. Mission assigned to the synod in whose territory the congregation is located. The Director for Ev. Mission will assist the congregation in understanding the grant process and insuring that the contents of the application adequately address the congregation's needs. The Director for Ev. Mission will also serve as liaison between the applicant congregation, the synod and other partners.

When completed, the application will be reviewed by the Outreach Committee and the unit. If approved, the Director for Ev. Mission will assist the congregation in completing the Partnership Support Covenant.

The availability of partnership support grants from the unit is based on the amount of churchwide funds made available to the unit on an annual basis. Far more applications are received than can be funded and, as a result, many worthy opportunities for enhanced outreach with the Gospel cannot be financially supported.

V. **APPLICATION FORMAT** – EACH of the following MUST be clearly and concisely addressed, in the order listed, by a written proposal.

1. **CONGREGATIONAL INFORMATION**

- a. Name and Mailing Address
- b. Congregational ID Number/Synod Name and ID Number
- c. Pastor's Name
- d. Phone Number
- e. Current Amount of EOCM Grant, if any

2. **PROGRAM/ACTIVITY TO BE ADDRESSED**

- a. Provide Program/Activity number and title

3. **NEED** – Explain why the grant is needed and how it addresses specific criteria of the selected activity.

4. **OBJECTIVES** – List and describe the specific objectives to be achieved over the total grant period (e.g. month-by-month; year-by-year). Objectives must be measurable and provide the basis for evaluation.

5. **PLAN OF ACTIVITIES** – Describe what will specifically be done to achieve the objectives and the time lines for accomplishing the work.

6. **REQUESTED AMOUNT OF GRANT** (for each year if multi-year) **AND START DATE**

7. **PROJECTED DATE OF SELF-SUPPORT** – When will grant support no longer be needed

8. **DETAILED BUDGET INFORMATION**

- a. Revenue/income should list all sources
- b. All expenses should be itemized
- c. Provide budgets for both the prior year and the start year of the grant

9. **APPROVALS/SIGNATURES** – Church Council, Lay President/Vice President and Pastor

For further information, contact the Evangelical Outreach and Congregational Mission unit Director for Ev. Mission serving the synod in which your congregation is located.

