

MODEL MINISTRY GRANT GUIDELINES

Purpose: To help congregations and groups respond to God's unfolding purposes by engaging in model ministries with a missional focus.

Rationale: In order to enable transformation in our world, our congregations must become "Missional Churches." A missional church is defined as "...a sacred community of God's people, who listen to God, and align all that they do with God's unfolding mission in the places where they serve." The church is called to "generously share the invitation, ministries, and sacraments through which people can encounter the Living Christ who heals and reconciles through redemptive relationships in sacred community." (D&C 163:2b) Many congregations in the Mission Center have ideas of what God is calling them to do, but find that there are financial barriers to making the call a reality. Thus the **Model Ministry Grants** have been established to encourage creativity in responding to God's call in the places where the groups or congregations serve by removing the financial barriers which may arise.

Scope: Funds, in the form of grants, will be made available to a congregation or group of congregations within the EGLMC who desire to respond to God's call in new and exciting ways by starting a model ministry. Although application could be made for funds to expand an existing program or ministry, preference will be given to start-up ministries. The grants are intended to supplement funding from local budgets or other resources. Thus applicant(s) must demonstrate commitment to the project by providing at least one-third (1/3) of the project cost from other sources. Exceptions to this requirement will be considered on a case-by-case basis in order to assure that lack of funding does not inhibit the creation of a necessary ministry. Generally, grants will not exceed \$2000.00 unless extenuating circumstances can substantiate a greater amount of support needed, or if funds remain after all requests have been filled. In all cases, a strict accounting of approved funds will be required.

Application: There is not an official application form. Applicants should submit a letter with the following information:

- Application Date
- Name of Project/Ministry
- Project/Ministry Leader
- Supporting Congregation or Group
- A brief statement of the purpose, need and scope.
- Goals and objectives; i.e. what the new ministry will accomplish/enable and how success will be measured.
- Projected Budget including details of expected costs and amount of financial support from other resources.
- Amount being requested from the Model Ministry Grant.

- Schedule including identification of events as well as beginning and ending dates of the overall project.
- Signature of Leader and Congregational Pastor or supporting group leader.

The deadline for letters of application will be March 1 of each calendar year. (In the event that funds remain after the first round of applications, notification will be sent to pastors allowing for a second deadline of June 1.) In most cases all applicants should know the status of the application and the amount being funded within forty-five (45) days of the Application Deadline.

Congregations or groups of congregations may submit only one Model Ministry Grant application per fiscal year.

Any applications submitted for additional funds after the initial fiscal year of support for a given program must be submitted with documented financial records from the previous year of funding.

All letters of application must be submitted to the Eastern Great Lakes Mission Center office by mail, fax or email with all supporting documentation. Any requested information not provided will result in an incomplete application that will not be processed.

Review: All letters of application will be reviewed by the Eastern Great Lakes Mission Center Leadership (Presidency and Financial Officer) as well as two current members of the MC Council. The MC Council representatives assisting in the review process will be chosen based on non-participation in submitting congregations.

Reporting: The following items need to be submitted to the Mission Center Office by January 31st of the year following receipt of the grant:

1. Program Director Evaluation
2. Financial Report
3. A brief written testimony from two program participants/congregation members regarding the model ministry.