

First United Methodist Foundation Community Grant

Mission:

To establish a community grant program to support the ongoing and new ministry of the church without impact to the annual budget of the church

Vision:

To shine the light of Christ (Matthew 25:40) in the community, region and world through a grant program designed to empower and engage others in meaningful mission

Funding Priorities:

- Projects designed to help and empower marginalized populations in our community;
- Projects which address basic human needs - for example projects to alleviate hunger, provide clean water and address other environmental needs; to combat homelessness; to create safe environments for children, and the like;
- Projects in our area which respond to the needs created by the COVID-19 pandemic; and,
- Projects with matching funds or additional sources of financial support.

The above list identifies priorities; however, all grant applications will be reviewed for consideration.

Application Pool:

- Individuals within the congregation with qualified projects;
- Non-profits addressing critical needs; and
- Individuals or organizations with matching funding for qualified projects.

Criteria:

To be established by the First United Methodist Church Foundation Board and vetted by the committee established by the Foundation Board.

Timeline:

Grant applications will be until July 31, considered in August, and awarded in the fall. The schedule can be modified by the board of the First United Methodist Church Foundation of Fort Smith, Arkansas.

Application Procedure

1. The FUMC Community Grant Program will have one funding cycle beginning in June of the current year. The deadline to submit an application is July 31 of same year. Applicants will be notified in August or September of same year.
2. All applicants must complete both the grant application form and the grant budget sheet. Applicants must adhere to recommended text limits. Applicants with questions should contact Patti Cox at pcox@fsfumc.org for assistance.
3. It is the responsibility of the applicant to verify materials have been received. Again, those with questions should contact Patti Cox.
4. Applicants must be at least 18 years of age.
5. Applicants must be willing to make presentation at end of funding cycle, sharing outcomes with Foundation Board.

FUMC Foundation Grant Application

Applicant information:

1. Title of proposal
2. Primary contact and title
3. Primary contact email
4. Primary contact phone number
5. Are you a member or working with other members of First United Methodist on this proposal?

The Proposal:

1. Project Summary (200 word maximum)
2. Is this an expansion of current project; or, a new project?
3. Are there media sties used by your project or program to publicize project/program, i.e., website, social media, etc.?(100 word maximum)
4. If your project is funded, describe how FSFUMC Foundation would be recognized in the success/completion of the project.
5. What is the specific community need your grant request addresses? (100 word maximum)
6. How does your project address these needs? (100 word maximum)
7. Briefly, how is your project innovative as compared to others already in place? Or, is your project unique?
8. Please list up to five expected outputs, outcomes, performance indicators with brief description. How you measure the success of the project/program?
9. What are your plans, if any, to collaborate with other efforts to reach your goal?
10. Have you received funding from FUMC or its foundation in the past? If so, please describe.
11. What is your total budget for this project or program? What is the minimum required? Please list any other sources of funds. If this project will continue after foundation funds are spent, how will you continue to fund this project.

In the rare case that grant resources cannot be expended, be prepared to return the remaining funds to the foundation.

If you are selected as a recipient for a grant, you will be required to submit progress reports including a budget summary.

Grant Budget Application:

Please list your total budget for this project and, if applicable, your organization's total annual budget.

1. List sources of revenue for your project including:
 - a. Applicant contribution
 - b. In-kind contributions
 - c. Donor contributions
 - d. Other grants
 - e. Other funding organizations or individuals
2. How does your project address the stated priorities for grants made by the Foundation of the First Methodist Church?
3. Please itemize (and describe as needed) expected expenses in the following categories:
 - a. Salaries of staff/benefits
 - b. Contracted services
 - c. Supplies/equipment
 - d. Advertising/printing
 - e. Miscellaneous (must be clearly described)
 - f. Other
4. If your request is not fully funded by the foundation, how will you finance your project?

With my signature I certify the following:

All information in my application is correct to the best of my knowledge; that funds, if granted, will be used only for the purpose described in the application; that I give permission for FUMC to conduct appropriate background searches in conjunction with this application; that I am at least 18 years of age, that I will meet reporting requirements associated with the grant; and, that I give permission to share this information with the Foundation Board, the membership of the First United Methodist Church, and in any promotional materials for the foundation.
