



## MISSION SUPPORT COMMITTEE 2007 GRANT AWARDS

### **CREATIVE LIVING COMMUNITY**

Emanuel Lutheran Church  
Manchester, CT  
One year grant

The grant monies will be used to hire a Project Coordinator and provide start-up funds for Phase I in the development of the Creative Living Community. This community will provide residential, vocational and recreational services for people with autism and other developmental disabilities. The mission is "to provide independent housing and supportive living services for adult individuals of the greater Manchester area who have been diagnosed with an Autism Spectrum Disorder or another developmental disability by providing the environment that allows maximum self-determination and enhances their sense of value".

**GRANT AWARDED: \$25,000**

### **MOUNTAIN SHELTER'S VOLUNTEER PROGRAM**

Wytheville, Virginia  
2nd year of a 3 year grant proposal

Mountain Shelter, Inc. (MSI) was incorporated in 1992 to provide housing programs in an underserved region of southwest Virginia. MSI serves five rural counties and the city of Galax. The region has an unemployment rate higher than state average; 16 % of the residents are over 65, with one in six living in poverty; 7% of all homes have no indoor plumbing or kitchen facilities. The mission statement of MSI is "to enable lower income and disadvantaged families to achieve and sustain affordable housing".

MSI was awarded \$46,000 in 2005 to hire a coordinator for their services. They were not able to hire anyone until this past fall. Since that time, there are over 200 volunteers, from church all over the country, scheduled for the first season of services. These services will include repairing roofs, ceilings and walls; digging ditches to prevent rain water from accumulation under the homes; renovating bathrooms to make them more handicap accessible; installing fencing around a playground for the local domestic violence shelter; addressing various electrical problems; and other building issues.

**GRANT AWARDED: \$25,000**

### **THE CARITAS CENTER PROJECT**

Christ Lutheran Church  
York, PA  
One year grant

Pennsylvania has the second highest number of elderly person in the nation, after Florida. York Count, specifically York City, has one of the highest numbers of elderly poor in Pennsylvania. In an attempt to serve the needs of the large population of elderly in the vicinity of Christ Church, an old church was purchased to house "The Caritas Program". This program is aimed at providing medical and therapeutic services for this population, with the Caritas Center serving as the "hub" for the coordination of such services. It is also the goal that those served by The Caritas Program would be invited to participate in the activities of Christ Church. The grant monies will be used to fund program development; coordination with local government and service agencies, and outreach.

**GRANT AWARDED: \$20,000**

**HOSPITALITY CENTER FOR CHINESE**

University of Minnesota

St. Paul, MN

One year grant

The Hospitality Center for Chinese (HCC) is a home and safe haven for over 200 Chinese International students at the University of Minnesota. One of the key components of the hospitality program is assisting Chinese students through academic, spiritual, and social activities, all of which require transportation. Less than 10% of our Chinese students own a vehicle and none are able to drive within the first weeks of coming to Minnesota. The services provided include airport pick-up and drop-off; furniture distribution; errands; church; education; outings and outreach. The grant monies will be used to purchase a used, 15-passenger van to enable this program to continue.

**GRANT AWARDED: \$20,000**

**MAZAHUA VALLEY BIBLE INSTITUTE – MAZAHUA VALLEY MINISTRIES**

Mazahua Valley

Mexico State, Mexico

One year grant

The Mazahua Valley Bible Institute seeks to extend the Gospel to the people of the Mazahua Valley, Mexico, and beyond, by training church leaders. The Institute works on the frontiers of the Mexican indigenous communities of the Mazahua Valley, with people who have been oppressed and who tend to suffer poverty economically and educationally. The Institute also is an example of partnership, bringing various Christian denominations together to provide trained leaders for Christian churches and ministries, without regard to denomination. The Institute recognizes the gifts of men and women, and of people with different levels of education, as well as people from all the ethnic groups that live in Mexico and is an important statement by the Christian church.

The institute now has its own building. The grant monies will be used to for furniture, books, computers, internet installation, printers and software.

**GRANT AWARDED: \$20,000**

**OPERATION OUTREACH**

Trinity Lutheran Church

Fresno, CA

1st year of three year grant proposal

Operation Outreach was started in May, 2006, in partnership with the area elementary school, counseling center and other service organizations. The program was started to serve the at risk children of their neighborhood who were locked in their playground looking for a safe place to play and hanging around after events looking for left over food to share. The program currently serves 103 children in areas of tutoring, computer lab, library, and exposure to art and music. One meal is provided daily. The mentoring program pairs at risk children with screened adult members of Trinity Lutheran Church. In partnership with Fresno Family Counseling Center, free therapy sessions are provided to the children and the families who are enrolled in the program. New shoes and a pair of jeans are provided for the first day of school for each child enrolled. Dental, optometric and medical care are also provided.

The grant monies will be used to provide background checks and training for program staff and volunteers.

**GRANT AWARDED: \$15,000**

**GLADE RUN FOUNDATION**

Zelienople, PA

2nd year of three year grant proposal

The therapeutic animal program was awarded \$30,000 in 2006. With that money, Glade Run Foundation has been able to acquire 8 horses and use the remaining stalls for boarding horses. The residential treatment facility clients have increased the number of hours they utilize the barn. Four local schools used the therapeutic animal program as a field trip; horses were transported to community events and participated in two Christmas activities. In addition, a record number of corporate volunteer groups have assisted the barn with maintenance projects in the last year.

Glade Run Foundation looks forward to building an indoor riding arena to be used by the residential clients and the community.

**GRANT AWARDED: \$12,500**

**SOUTH BROOKLYN INTERFAITH COALITION FOR HEALTH AND WELLNESS**

Brooklyn, New York

1st year of three year grant proposal

As waves of new, predominantly Scandinavian, immigrants struggled to survive in southwest Brooklyn, it was the church that stepped forth to bring much-needed services of support and care to the community. With virtually no safety net of healthcare services, a Norwegian Deaconess Nurse, Sister Elisabeth Fedde, created a church-sponsored healthcare ministry on the streets of south Brooklyn. Established in 1883, that ministry has evolved into an integrated healthcare system known as Lutheran HealthCare (LHC). LHC remains relentlessly committed to Sister Elisabeth's original mission. The community it serves remains predominantly immigrant in nature with large numbers of Hispanic, Chinese, Arab, Russian and other cultures and languages.

The South Brooklyn Interfaith Coalition for Health and Wellness (SBICHW) was formed to continue to address the continuing health care disparities of southwest Brooklyn. This faith/health partnership involving upwards of 150 congregations are working in direct alliance with LHC to have an impact upon the improved health of their own members and the entire community through enhanced access to primary and preventive care; improved quality of care; expansion of health education and promotion of better self-care/self-management; improved religio-cultural competence in delivery of healthcare; and practicing healthcare as a truly collaborative "shared endeavor".

The grant monies will be used in hiring an administrative coordinator for this coalition.

**AWARDE GRANTED: \$12,500**

**AUGUSTA VICTORIA HOSPITAL**

Jerusalem Lutheran World Federation Campus

One year grant

The Deaconess movement and the Augusta Victoria Hospital (AVH) in Jerusalem share common roots and values. When German Lutherans first came to Jerusalem in the mid-nineteenth century, deaconesses from Kaiserswerth also arrived in 1851 to establish a hospice in 1852 and a school for girls in 1955. After his visit in 1898, Kaiser William II of Germany and Prussia commissioned the construction of Dormition Abbey, the Church of the Redeemer in the Old City, and the Augusta Victoria Guesthouse for Pilgrims on the Mount of

Olives. German deaconesses lived and worked on this property caring for German visitors. The Augusta Victoria Hospital was completed in 1910 and named for the Kaiser's wife, Augusta Victoria.

The AVH personnel have attempted to meet both the challenges of the prevailing political and economic conditions and also the needs of their patients through innovative approaches to medical care. The restrictions on Palestinian access to Jerusalem pushed the AVH administration to take the position that accessibility to health care is a human right and that it is the duty of the hospital to find ways to ensure the timely and proper delivery of care to its patients who come for care. Therefore, LWF expanded a busing service that picks up patients and staff in West Bank towns and transports them to the hospital.

The LWF village clinics provide medical care to villagers. Doctors and nurses of the four LWF Village Health Clinics see approximately 1,300 patients every month.

The grant monies will be used to help support these services

**GRANT AWARDED: \$10,000**

### **CENTER FOR HEALING AND HOPE**

Goshen, IN

2nd year of three year grant proposal

This joint ministry of 39 churches has operated a clinic for the uninsured in Goshen since 1999 and has expanded their services to Elkhart. In 2006, the Mission Support Committee provided a grant award of \$20,000 to set up a similar clinic at Grace Lutheran Church.

The monies have been used to make the third floor of Grace Lutheran Church available for the clinic. Eight physicians volunteer at the clinic one day a week but need more to provide coverage for a second day. Hired a Patient Advocate to assist in placing patients with area healthcare providers. There are now 23 congregations partnering together to sustain this ministry (increased from 15).

The grant monies will be used to continue expanding these services.

**GRANT AWARDED: \$10,000**

### **FIRST ENGLISH LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Columbus, OH

One year grant

First English Lutheran Church is located in a community that has been declining for many years and is currently one of hopelessness, drug infestation and crime. The church is surrounded by boarded up houses. The members of this small congregation are working to create a multi-use space in their Fellowship Hall. The aim is to create a community theatre, staging several productions throughout the year with local youth and adults and initiate a Friday/Saturday "Coffee House" with refreshments and music, providing safer and healthier activities that what is now available in the neighborhood. The space would also be made available to the community for banquets and other celebrations.

The grant monies will be used for the purchase of stage curtains, theatre lighting, used portable sound equipment and used tables and chairs.

**GRANT AWARDED: \$10,000**