



2009 Mission Support Grants

NEW GRANTS

1. **CAMINOS DE ESPERANZA**

DeKalb, IL

One year project

Project Purpose: To provide environmentally friendly water, septic and electrical systems for the School of the Saints in Retalhuleu, Guatemala. The school promotes education, health nutrition, environmental care and empowerment of people on the south coast of Guatemala. It is anticipated that once the school is operational 350 of the poorest of the poor children living in a settlement will attend the school. This water filtration system will be a model for the community and will help provide clean, fresh water to residents.

GRANT AWARDED: \$10,000

2. **CENTER FOR GRACE-FULL LIVING**

Baltimore, MD

One year project

Project Purpose: To promote wellness through the Food Pantry, Garden Club, after school programs, a support group for grandmothers raising grandchildren, and a monthly healing worship as part of Amazing Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church. The target population lives in a very impoverished inner city neighborhood of Baltimore. The grant will provide support for a volunteer from Lutheran Volunteer Corps for a one-year expansion of this ministry which currently is directed by an experienced parish nurse.

GRANT AWARDED: \$14,000

3. **COMMUNITY LUTHERAN PARTNERS**

Shepherdstown, WV

One year project

Project Purpose: To expand this agency's geographic impact into the southern part of West Virginia which exhibits poverty, environmental degradation caused by mountain-top removal coal mining industry, and repeated flooding. CLP seeks to add a part-time staff person responsible for building the Lutheran presence of outreach and community in this area in partnership with congregations, and other faith-based agencies such as Catholic Community Services, Presbyterian Mission of Advocacy and Workcamps, Appalachian Cream Center.

GRANT AWARDED: \$10,000

4. **LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICES OF NEW ENGLAND & GOOD NEWS GARAGE**

Wellesley, MA & Charlestown, RI

Two-year project

Project Purpose: To provide resources to congregations in 4 clusters as they seek to respond to



urgent needs for social ministry in their communities. The clusters are located in Charlestown RI; Cape Cod, MA; Boston area; and Hartford, CT. Projects address populations in these communities which are below the poverty line with support for persons to attain economic independence, youth at risk, community meal programs, and planning for affordable housing. LSS proposes to engage a deaconess or diaconal minister to fill a newly created staff position to coordinate these clusters' efforts.

GRANT AWARDED: \$30,000

5. HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Wythesville, VA

Three year project

Project Purpose: To provide an after-school enrichment program serving the academic, social, physical, behavioral, and motivational development for 25 students ages 7 to 18 years. A particular focus is children in foster care and those at risk of being placed in foster care. This is a partnership between the school system and Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. A 2007 pilot program was developed in partnership with Lutheran Family Services of Virginia.

GRANT AWARDED: \$18,000

6. LUTHERAN EPISCOPAL SERVICES OF MISSISSIPPI

Jackson, MS

Three year project

Project Purpose: To expand the summer academic enrichment program for at-risk children from kindergarten through sixth grade to include year round mentoring, parent advocacy, and support for children in Greenville MS. Certified teachers, with a 10:1 ratio, serving approximately 70 children per site, currently emphasizes reading skills for children from families living in extreme poverty and some from migrant worker families.

Evaluation of results from other sites which have been operating since 2001 have shown that 90% of participating children have had significant positive differences in their test scores on a standard evaluation tool.

GRANT AWARDED: \$15,000

7. LUTHERAN MINISTRIES AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Waco, TX

Three year project

Project Purpose: To expand legal assistance services for low-income persons, especially grandparents dealing with legal problems related to raising grandchildren and to provide full-time professional staff for this program. The goal of the program is to offer accurate information to assist grandparents in obtaining legal guardianship rights for grandchildren at risk of being placed in foster care and to educate low income seniors about other legal rights such as medical power of attorney for ailing spouses through Law Forums in senior centers and churches.

GRANT AWARDED: \$20,000



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8. **LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICES OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS**

Saint Croix

One year project

Project Purpose: To serve up to 16 children ages birth to 18 with severe disabilities in an expanded cottage through a state-of-the-art nurses' station equipped with emergency devices, medical monitoring equipment, and new instruments. Sister Emma Francis, the first West Indian Lutheran Deaconess, helped found LSS VI and the cottage is named for her. Children who formerly had no option except long-term hospitalization have been helped through this agency's personalized care including physical and occupational therapy in addition to specialized nursing care.

GRANT AWARDED: \$22,000

9. **CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Charlotte, NC

Three year project

Project Purpose: To provide programming for 652 low income children enrolled in McClintock Middle School through the auspices of Christ Lutheran Church which are aimed at increasing their opportunities for obtaining a sound education. Family Nights, a full-day summer program, daytime tutoring, Teacher Partners, Truancy Court pre-emptive programs, classroom supplies and professional development for teachers are all elements of this partnership. The student population represents a diverse mix of ethnicities and some are at risk for homelessness. More than 400 volunteers have been involved in starting this program. A grant would assist with meal and transportation costs in addition to supporting an additional part-time staff position until more sustainable funding is secured.

GRANT AWARDED: \$14,000

10. **SILVER SPRINGS-MARTIN LUTHER SCHOOL**

Plymouth Meeting, PA

One year project

Project Purpose: To provide one year's support for spiritual support programs, weekly workshops with a faith focus for 70 children in residence at the school, and small group counseling to assist with trauma recovery. The program is facilitated by Sisters Sally Kerr and Jane Roper who lead the weekly workshops which aim to help children come to a knowledge of and an embrace of God's unfailing love. The personal spiritual preferences of parents and children are respected. One indication of the program's effectiveness is found in children expressing a desire to participate in Sunday workshop experiences and on occasion a request for baptism.

GRANT AWARDED: \$20,000

11. **ST. CATHERINE LABOURE MEDICAL CLINIC**

Philadelphia, PA

Three year project

Project Purpose: To launch the Adopt-A-Patient Program which aims to support 700 patient visits which costs the Clinic \$800 with a patient co-pay of \$10. The majority of patients who are



uninsured have cardiovascular disease and are served by a family practitioner, physician's assistant, and nurse practitioners. Partners in this project include Chestnut Hill Health System and Albert Einstein Hospital Charity Care Program.

GRANT AWARDED: \$13,000

12. **SUVA CHILDREN'S HOME** (via World Servants in Richfield, MN)

Kali, Kenya

One year project

Project Purpose: To construct a solar power system at the orphanage with volunteer labor recruited by World Servants. The need is for electric energy for cooking and hot water for bathing and washing clothes plus outdoor lighting for the safety of the 25 girls at the Home. This home is a partnership with the African Inland Church of Kenya, a non-denominational mission. World Servants facilitates mission experiences for US volunteer teams and partners with local leadership to assist with projects deemed important by the communities.

GRANT AWARDED: \$5,000

RENEWED GRANTS

1. **TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Fresno, CA

Third of a three year grant

Project Report: In 2008, an average of 25 children have participated, receiving daily after school meals. During the first week of July, 20 children and their parents attended a week-long summer camp. Thanksgiving food baskets and Christmas food cards were disbursed to these families. Twelve of the children are now enrolled in the 2009 confirmation class. A Food Distribution ministry for these families and surrounding neighbors has been started and a sample week's count shows that 118 families equating to 320 people were provided with free food.

Project Purpose: The final year's project will include expansion of the food program and maintenance of the after school programs according to their original plan. They will upgrade the computers which are used with the children and will also begin scouting programs for boys and for girls. Additional needs are emerging but remain only in the earliest phases of visioning such as a charter school and a day care center. The additional sum of \$4800 would cover free music lessons to interested youth.

GRANT AWARDED: \$8,000

2. **Southeast Ministry and Prison Outreach Ministry**

Washington, DC

Second year of a three year grant

Project Report: From August 2008 through February 20, 59 re-entrants were referred by POM to various community programs including 10 to SEM for job readiness programs with 6 graduating. POM trains mentors from local congregations and helps match them with residents of local halfway



houses. Eight job readiness sessions were held between July and February with 193 men and women participants. 82% graduated and were connected with employers, job training programs and apprenticeship programs. An Ex-offender Support Group is offered on a weekly basis in partnership with a half-way house. POM and SEM partner with congregations to provide clothing closet resources for job applications.

Project Purpose: To expand partnerships with community programs for additional support and resourcing for clients. Faith-based ministries, federal half way programs, district correctional treatment facilities, parole officers, court services, and other re-integration programs are some of the new partners being identified for extension of new referrals and programs.

GRANT AWARDED: \$10,000

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

Brooklyn, NY

Third year of a three year grant

Project Report: The Coalition sponsored Health and Wellness Sundays in community congregations to offer health education, screenings, and referrals for follow-up care. Volunteer nurses from Lutheran Medical Center participated in these events. Through the efforts of the Coalition hundreds of persons including children have been signed up for low-cost Medicaid- managed healthcare coverage. A US Congressman helped secure funding to provide flu shots for older adults in 3 large congregations. Community clergy participated in an Emergency Preparedness Workshop in partnership with the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. A domestic violence awareness event was held for community clergy and congregational leaders. The nurse coordinator identified new resources and built collaborative relationship throughout Lutheran Medical Center, Lutheran Family Health Centers, WIC, American Cancer Society, American Heart Association, home health agencies, senior housing projects and long term care facilities.

Project Purpose: To leverage the natural inherent strengths of faith communities in this interfaith, multi-ethnic, and low income to below poverty level community with those of a Lutheran-sponsored, faith-based health system. The goal is to improve the health status of a whole people throughout this large community using holistic health models.

GRANT AWARDED: \$18,000

4. **LUTHERAN CHURCH OF CHRIST IN NIGERIA - WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP**

Minneapolis Area Synod Women of the ELCA

One-year deferral requested

GRANT AWARDED: Deferred until 2010