The Urban Commission of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference will award grants to assist in funding **Urban Alliances or Urban Church Initiatives.**

**United Methodist churches of the Eastern PA Conference, located in the following urban centers, are invited and encouraged to apply:**

**Allentown**

**Bethlehem**

**Chester**

**Coatesville**

**Lancaster**

**Lebanon**

**Norristown**

**Pottstown**

**Reading**

**Philadelphia and Philadelphia area**

**Applicants must choose whether to apply as an Urban Alliance or Urban Church Initiative. Please indicate how you are applying at the top of the cover page.**

**Urban Alliances** are formed by two or more congregations working together in collaborative ministries, preferably with community and civic partners. The Urban Ministries Coordinator will assist in the formation of Alliances and the administration of funding. Upon their formation, Alliances will appoint a representative and become members of the Urban Commission. This representative may be clergy or a lay person. Urban Alliances, because they involve multiple partners, may apply for funding up to $6,000.

**Urban Church Initiatives** are to support new or expanding ministries within a single urban congregation. Local Churches Initiatives may apply for funding up to $2,500.

This is an invitation for new Initiatives and Alliances. Those who received grants in the fall of 2018 are not eligible to apply for spring funding but may apply in the fall after reporting on their 2019 progress.

Please keep in mind that grant funds may not be used to pay salaries or for any existing building expenses, maintenance or repairs, including those caused by natural calamities.

**Applications must include:**

**Cover Page and Budget.**

**Part A Description**

**Part B Questions.**

Please answer as completely as is possible.

You may write or type within the document or attach pages as necessary.

**Applications should be sent to:**

**Dr. Anita Powell, Director of Connectional Ministries**

[**apowell@epaumc.org**](mailto:apowell@epaumc.org)

**EPA Conference UMC**

**PO Box 820**

**Valley Forge, PA 19482-0820**

**Application Deadline: May 30, 2019.**

**Awards will be announced by: July 1, 2019.**

**Please choose: \_\_\_ Urban Alliance \_\_\_ Urban Church Initiative**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Organization:** | | | | **District:** | |
| **Address:** | | | **Phone: (****)** **-** | | |
| **Full Name of Contact Person:** | | **Title/Position:** | | | |
| **Organization Email:** | | **Applicant Email:** | | | |
| **Project Name:** | | **Amount of Request: $** | | | |
| **Expected Start Date:** | | **Duration of Project:** | | | |
| **PROPOSED PROJECT BUDGET** | | | | | |
| **Income Sources: Amount** | | **Expenses: Amount** | | | |
| Urban Alliance Grant |  |  | | |  |
| Other - |  |  | | |  |
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| **Total:** |  | **Total:** | | |  |

**Application submitted by:**

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Printed Name Title Phone

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Signature Date

**Submission approved by:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of District Superintendent Date

Comments:

**Part A:**

Please attach a one- or two-page, detailed description of the proposed ministry including

**Part A is a public summary of your proposed ministry and will be used by the Urban Commission, Conference Communications, etc. for publicity purposes.**

* Name of church sponsoring the Initiative or churches forming the Alliance
* Community problem or need to be addressed
* Goals for addressing need. Who will be served?
* Activities of the ministry and how they will address goals
* Existing community resources and how the ministry will engage community strengths

**Part B:**

1. **For all applicants:**

What is your ministry?

Is this a new ministry, or expanding an existing ministry?

Why is this ministry needed?

1. **For all applicants:**

What goals do you hope to achieve?

Who will you be serving?

How many people will you be serving, directly, indirectly?

Please be specific with measurable, numerical goals.

1. **For all applicants:**

What is your timeline for these goals.

How will you measure and evaluate success?

Who will be evaluating your ministry results and reporting back to the Urban Commission and Conference?

1. **For all applicants:**

Description of community. What is the geographic, socioeconomic, cultural, and faith context for your ministry?

1. **For Urban Alliances:**

Who are the UM congregations involved?

What is your history as an alliance already?

**For Urban Church Initiatives:**

Who, within the local congregation, will be leading this ministry?

Who will be working with you?

Do you have the support of your Administrative Council / Leadership Team?

1. **For all applicants:**

The Urban Alliance grant is intended for collaborative ministries between United

Methodist congregations and community partners. The Urban Initiative grant also

encourages, but does not require, collaboration with community partners.

What community/civic partnerships are part of your proposed ministry?

(i.e. YMCA, Boys and Girls Club, Interfaith, Non-Profit Entity, Local Government)

1. **For all applicants:**

How will this grant create opportunity to do ministry in a new way, to serve more people,

or to serve more effectively?

1. **For all applicants:**

How is this initiative in alignment with the EPA Conference Mission of:

* 1. creating disciples
  2. celebrating diversity
  3. connecting communities
  4. committing to love and justice

1. **For all applicants:**

What are your plans for continuing this initiative and sustaining this ministry after the initial grant?