

Presented by Noé Gabriel López, Seunghyun Lee, and Alyssa Ruch

Grant writing workshop



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03

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CONTACT US

Noé Gabriel López

Noé Gabriel (Gabe) López is the new Associate Superintendent for Urban Ministries and Community Engagement with the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference of the United Methodist Church.

His ministry has been driven by a deep passion for social justice, community empowerment, and the belief in faith's power to transform lives. Gabe is eager to collaborate with congregations and Hope/Wholeness Centers to foster vibrant, compassionate, and just environments.

Contact with Gabe at glopez@epaumc.church



Sean Lee

Sean Seunghyun Lee has been appointed as an Associate Superintendent for the Coastal Plains Region of the GNJ. In this role, he will also lead the ‘A Journey of Hope and Wholeness,’ serving both the EPA and GNJ Conferences.

Sean has a deep love for local churches and a strong passion for recruiting and training new leaders. He is also dedicated to supporting the CRCC ministry.

Contact: slee@gnjumc.org



Alyssa Ruch

is the EPA & GNJ Connectional Ministries Administrator and Program Director for The Bridges Project, a Lilly Endowment Grant.

As someone passionate about asset-based community development, and a storyteller at heart, Alyssa is dedicated to amplifying the voices who have been left out.

Contact Alyssa at aruch@gnjumc.org



Workshop Objectives

In this workshop, we will:

- **Understand the Grant Writing Process:** Participants will gain a clear understanding of the overall grant writing process, from identifying opportunities to submitting applications.
- **Explore Available Grants:** Participants will be introduced to various grant opportunities available through EPA and GNJ Annual Conferences.
- **Develop SMART Goals:** Participants will learn how to formulate Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-bound (SMART) goals that align with their projects and enhance their grant applications.
- **Reaffirm our mission and vision:** Participants will take the opportunity to reaffirm their mission and vision, knowing that we are united in Christ and journeying together.
- **Final Tips & Q&A:** Gain insights on common mistakes to avoid, tips for success, and have your questions answered.

The Basics of Grant Writing

Align with Conference Priorities:

Ensure your project aligns with the mission and goals of EPA/GNJ, and thoughtfully tailor your proposal to reflect these priorities.

Set Clear SMART Goals:

Define SMART goals, outline specific objectives, activities, and a detailed budget with justifications.

Craft a Compelling Narrative:

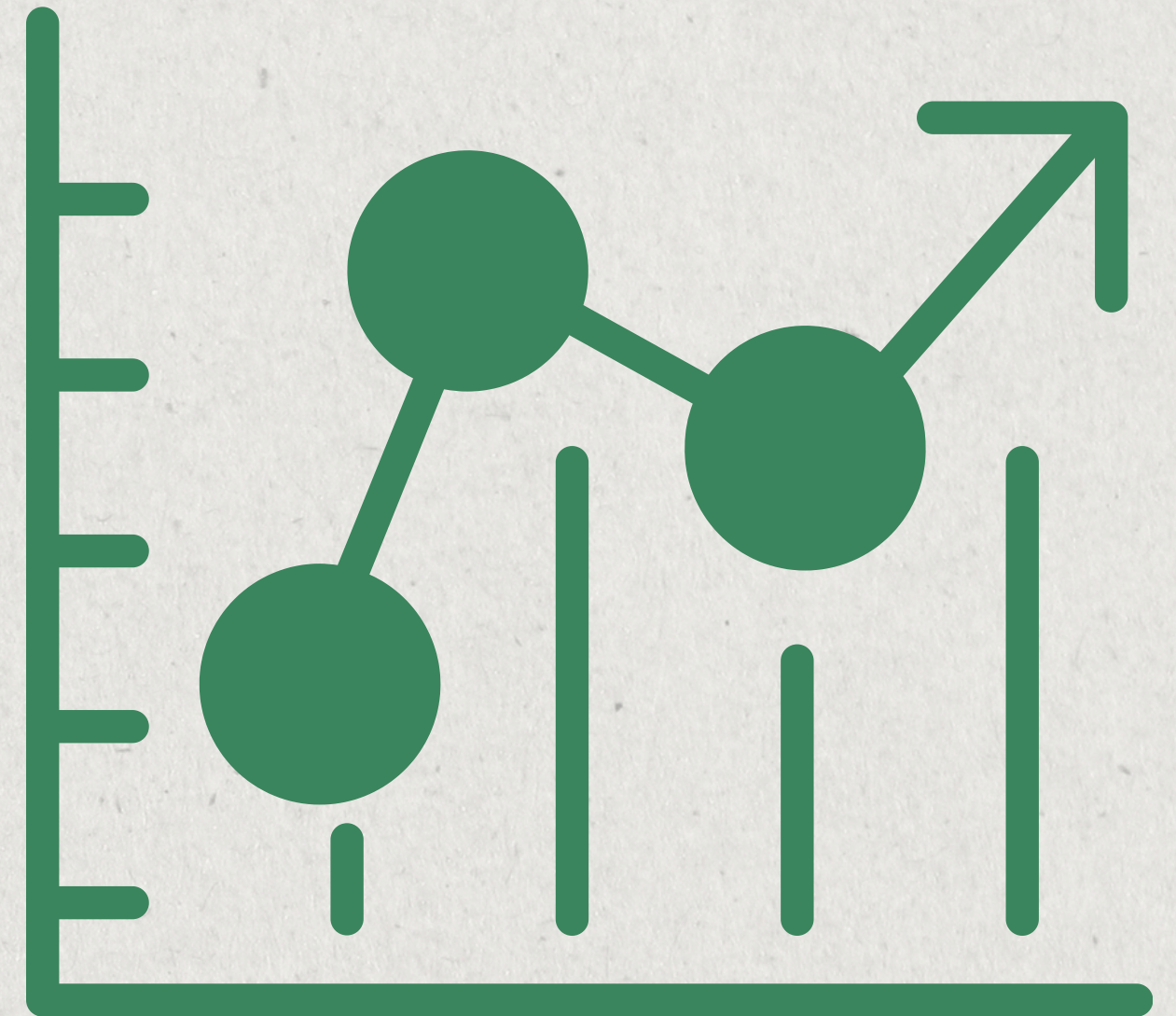
Use clear, concise storytelling to highlight the significance, expected outcomes, and sustainability of your project.

Follow Guidelines :

Adhere to the Conferences' guidelines, review your proposal thoroughly, and engage with Conference leadership for feedback and clarification.

THE IMPACT OF STORYTELLING

- STAY MISSION FOCUSED
 - WHAT IS THE NEED?
- DEFINE FUTURE IMPACT
 - YOUR PROJECT: THE SOLUTION
 - THE OUTCOME



EPA AVAILABLE GRANTS

01

CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

new places for new people
no max; typically, \$5K - \$10K

02

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Partnership with your community
no max; typically, \$2K - \$5K

03

WHOLENESS/HOPE CENTER

connect United Methodists with
other groups for mission.
up to \$10K

04

URBAN MINISTRY

Urban Alliances (involve multiple partners) may apply for up to \$6K
Urban Initiatives (single urban church) supports new or expanding ministries up to \$2,500

05

DEWEES

for initial funding of a project only.
up to \$5K, but not exceeding

06

NARBERTH

eligible ministries seek to serve
disadvantaged populations
up to \$15K

07

LATINO/HISPANIC MINISTRY

New or revitalized Latino ministries
no max; typically, \$3K - \$5K

08

METRO MINISTRY

award matching grants up to \$5K to
assist building repairs for UMCs in
Chester and Philadelphia

GNJ AVAILABLE GRANTS

01

CONGREGATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

02

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

REVIEW OF PROCESS

AUGUST 15

**GRANTS
APPLICATIONS
OPEN**

SEPTEMBER 30

**GRANT
APPLICATIONS
DUE**

DECEMBER 15

**GRANT
AWARDS
ANNOUNCED**

**GRANT PROGRESS
REPORTS DUE:**

APRIL 30

SEPTEMBER 30

DECEMBER 15

JOURNEY OF HOPE & WHOLENESS

ACT

Aspire/Affiliate

Actively develop and deepen relationships with people of races and cultures different from the congregation.

JOURNEY OF HOPE & WHOLENESS

ACT
Comprehend

Engage in learning experiences to broaden and deepen understanding of racism, bias, privilege, systemic racism, and trauma caused by racism.

JOURNEY OF HOPE & WHOLENESS

ACT
Transform

Change conditions, systems to end racism
and better understand your congregation
and your changing community.

JOURNEY OF HOPE & WHOLENESS

Pathways

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Which Pathway are you interested in following? *

- ☐ Vitality
- ☐ Sustainability
- ☐ Community Engagement
- ☐ Next Generation
- ☒ Journey of Hope & Wholeness
- ☐ Conflict Resolution
- ☐ Unsure, we request a consultation

JOURNEY OF HOPE & WHOLENESS

Pathways

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Select 1 of the below options: *

- ☐ Check here if you would like a consultation to help decide which Pathway is best for your church to pursue.
- ☐ Check here if you would like to pursue Pathways with a facilitator.
- ☐ Check here if you would like to pursue Pathways as the self-guided option (led by the pastor and church leaders, without an assigned facilitator from EPA&GNJ).

SMART Goals

01.

Specific: The goal should be clear and specific, so everyone involved understands what is expected. It answers the questions: Who? What? Where? When? Why?

02.

Measurable: The goal should have criteria for measuring progress and success. It answers the question: How will you know when the goal is achieved?

03.

Achievable: The goal should be realistic and attainable. It answers the question: Is the goal possible given the resources and constraints?

04.

Relevant: The goal should matter to you and be aligned with other relevant goals. It answers the question: Why is this goal important?

05.

Time-bound: The goal should have a deadline or a time frame. It answers the question: When will the goal be achieved?

NON-SMART GOALS

Goal: “We want to feed people through a community fridge.”

- The goal doesn't answer the questions:
 - Who, What, Where, When, and Why?
 - How will you know when the goal will be achieved?
 - Is the goal possible?
 - Why is it important to you, your local church, or Hope or Wholeness center?
 - When will it be achieved?

SMART GOALS FOR FRIDGE MINISTRY

Specific

- Launch a community fridge in the church parking lot to provide consistent access to free, nutritious food for individuals and families facing food insecurity.
- Define target population, location, and purpose of the fridge ministry. Include the number of people you aim to serve and the type of food items to be provided.

SMART GOALS FOR FRIDGE MINISTRY

Measurable

- Track and report the number of food items stocked (e.g., 50 per day) and the number of families served weekly (e.g., 20 families).
- Include methods for tracking progress, such as inventory logs, surveys, or volunteer reports, to demonstrate impact in your grant application.

SMART GOALS FOR FRIDGE MINISTRY

Achievable

- Assess and secure necessary resources, including partnerships with local grocery stores, food banks, and church/community volunteers, to ensure the sustainability of the fridge.
- Provide a plan outlining how these resources will be utilized and maintained. Show realistic budgeting and volunteer management strategies.

SMART GOALS FOR FRIDGE MINISTRY

Relevant

- Clearly connect the fridge ministry to the broader mission of your church, Hope, or Wholeness Center, such as community engagement, justice ministries, health and wellness initiatives, etc.
- Highlight how this project aligns with the grant's objectives and the community's needs, emphasizing the long-term benefits.

SMART GOALS FOR FRIDGE MINISTRY

Time-Bound

- Set a launch date (e.g., January 1st) and establish a timeline for key milestones, such as initial setup, community engagement, and regular review periods for the first three months.
- Provide a clear project timeline in your grant application, demonstrating a well-thought-out plan with deadlines for each phase (including grant reports 😊).

THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

CONTACT US:

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