



The Episcopal Diocese of Western Massachusetts
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MINISTRY DEVELOPMENT GRANTS PROGRAM

Our Diocese has budgeted \$70,000 in 2021 to grant for projects falling within the criteria from any of our congregations or diocesan-sponsored ministries beyond the congregation.

WHERE TO BEGIN?

Ask yourself and those around you:

- CONSIDER: What ministry or mission have we been dreaming of, discussing, wishing for—lately, or over the years??
- DREAM: If your parish or ministry received \$2000 to \$10,000 who would you reach out to? How would you put it to the best possible use?
- LOOK: ('Why didn't we think of that....?') Take a look on our webpage at ministries that have recently been funded...maybe your idea is even better!
- INQUIRE: Speak either to members of the MD Grants team, or to clergy and lay leaders who have been awarded grants and are working their magic with new and vibrant ministries!

COMPLIANCE WITH ALL ELEMENTS OF CRITERIA IS CRUCIAL FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF YOUR APPLICATION/PROPOSAL. This includes:

- A completed current year application
- A line-item budget
- Dates of most recent Mutual Ministry Review (or date scheduled)
- Peer Review (one is sufficient)
- Completed financial accounting of previous Ministry Development Grants

Applications

1. DUE DATE: Applications are due no later than **March 15, 2021**. To be considered, an application must be received either in hard or electronic copy by the deadline. Applications submitted electronically are preferred—please send as one scanned document. We are sorry we cannot accept faxes.
2. GRANT / PROJECT LIMIT: Any congregation or diocesan-sponsored ministry may submit more than one grant proposal but **the total dollar limit must be no greater than \$10,000**.
3. SEPARATE PROPOSALS/APPLICATIONS: To assist the decision-making process, each application/proposal is limited to **one proposed project**.
4. Each congregation or ministry is asked to designate two people (other than the Rector or Priest-in-Charge) who will be able to answer questions about and speak to the proposal, as well as following up with the accounting of the funds. Contact information must include email and phone, and be clearly written.

5. You will be asked for two reports on your project: a narrative report, with photographs if possible, prior to Diocesan Convention; and a financial accounting summary that will be due 12 months from the date of grant issue.
6. Prior to applying for a new grant, your congregation must have accounted for and reported on any grants received in previous years.

Restrictions

The Ministry Development team enjoys the opportunity to award grants, and views this responsibility as a privilege. Because so many worthy projects are applied for, we find it necessary to apply the following limits:

1. Purchase of real estate and clergy salaries are never funded. However, modest stipends to professionals for the start of new ministry efforts will be considered.
2. Repairs for deferred maintenance are rarely funded, unless your project is shown to have a clear connection to a specified new ministry.
3. Expenses for travel are rarely funded. The work of mission trips often falls within the criteria. However, travel costs are high, and there are many great mission opportunities close to home. If you apply for a grant for a mission trip, we ask that you exclude the travel costs (gasoline, van rental, or airfare) from your request. Another way to say this is that we expect a higher ratio of co-investment for a project that requires travel.

Application may be found at <https://www.diocesewma.org/grant-opportunities/cdigrants/>

The Ministry Development Grants Team

Please address questions, concerns or comments to any team member:

Ms. Barbara Kalber, Holy Trinity, Southbridge
Ms. Lynda Lemanis, St. Mark's, East Longmeadow
Mr. Sandy Muspratt, Grace Church, Amherst
The Rev. Mary Rosendale, Trinity Church, Ware
The Rev. Samuel Smith, St. Paul's Church, Stockbridge
The Rev. Peter Swarr, St. Mark's, East Longmeadow
Mr. Al Symonds, St. Stephen's, Pittsfield
The Rev. Meredyth Ward, Urban Missioner for Worcester
The Rev. Dcn. Beth Washburn, St. Stephen's, Westborough

Diocesan Facilitator: The Rev. Canon Rich Simpson
Diocesan Support: Ms. Karen Warren