

Bishop's Ministry Grant Program (BMGP)

The Purpose of the BMGP is to strengthen the leadership and infrastructure of the Episcopal Churches in Southeast Florida. One million dollars over a four year period will be granted to build the Church in Southeast Florida so that it is equipped to answer God's call to transform lives and to faithfully care for those in need. The grant period will be from two to four years depending on the type and scope of the applicant's ministry.

It is hoped that the BMGP will be sufficiently successful within the next four years to create confidence and enthusiasm within the Episcopal Church in Southeast Florida in raising the necessary additional funds – approximately \$12 million - to empower the BMGP well into the future.

Criteria

IMPACT – Impact of the BMGP is directly associated with membership and ministry growth with long-term measurable results.

- The BMGP is for long-term health of the applicant's ministry.
- The BMGP is NOT intended to prop-up declining ministries or to support those ministries that cannot obtain self-support status at the end of the grant period.

DEMONSTRATE – The applicant is expected to contribute in-kind and financial support for their proposed ministry.

SERVE – The proposed ministry should serve in concert with the vision and mission of the Episcopal Church of Southeast Florida.



The Grants

Awards will be granted to approximately ten (number will vary according to number of applicants and the total cost of the projects) congregations, regional ministries, or special deanery or diocesan projects. These grants will range from two to four years in length.

All congregations, regional ministries, special deanery or diocesan ministries that meet the stated criteria will be welcomed to apply.

TYPES OF GRANTS

1. Leadership Development/Equipping Grants:

- a. **Purpose:** Develop lay leadership training programs to further collaborative relationship between clergy and lay leaders and/or enhance the ministry of the Church.
- b. **Types of Grants:** Grants that invest in clergy and lay leadership development. Examples of the types of grants that might be funded: language proficiency for non-English and English speakers, preaching, grant writing, music enrichment, stewardship innovations, new member ministry training, social media education and implementation, marketing and evangelism initiatives, sabbaticals, etc.
- c. **Projects Not Suitable for Funding:** Congregations or regional ministries who wish to supplement the compensation expenses of a full or part-time clergy or lay person.

2. Ministry Placement Grants

- a. **Purpose:** Identify and train assisting clergy for long term transformative pastoral leadership in the diocese.
- b. **Types of Grants:** Congregations who are able to substantially share in the support of the total compensation expenses and benefits of a graduated seminarian or other clergy person for four years may receive matching financial support. It is anticipated that only two or three of our larger congregations will have sufficient funds to qualify.
- c. **Projects Not Suitable for Funding:** Congregations or regional ministries with a part-time clergy person and congregations that are not able to substantially contribute to the total clergy compensation expenses.

3. Regional Ministries:

- a. **Purpose:** Develop and further the creation of regional and collaborative ministries in the diocese. These awards will equip lay and clergy leadership in creative ministry initiatives that will involve multi-congregational or diocesan participation.
- b. **Types of Grants:** A deanery leadership group, made up of lay and clergy leadership from most or all churches in a deanery, will convene to discuss and identify a common need or challenge in the deanery. Grants will be available for these partnership activities.
 - i. Ethnic ministries beyond the congregational level will be considered.
- c. **Projects Not Suitable for Funding:** Solo congregations that seek to supplement their clergy's compensation expenses.

Applicant Requirements

All materials requested below must be submitted electronically to Gail McShane at gail@diosef.org.

1. **Contact Information:** Submit the following information:
 - a. Name of entity submitting the request (Congregation, Regional, Deanery Ministry, and/ or diocesan organization).
 - b. Name of Key Contact Person.
 - c. Key Contact Person's e-mail address, phone numbers, and mailing address.

2. **Overarching:** State how the grant proposal will benefit the overall ministry of the Episcopal Church in Southeast Florida.

3. **Parish Ministry Plan:** Include an outline of your entity's present Parish Ministry Plan (Vision, Mission and Strategic Plan).

4. **Proposed Ministry Project:** Include an outline of the proposed Ministry Project. (Three page maximum). Include responses to the following questions:
 - a. What are your desired outcomes?
 - b. What or who is your target group?
 - c. Demonstrate how this particular ministry project will strengthen the diocesan, regional, deanery or a specific congregation's overall ministry.
 - d. How does this ministry project help to support the Parish Ministry Plan?
 - e. How does this ministry project support the needs of the larger community?
 - f. Give examples of the applicant's prior success in this type of ministry project.
 - g. What volunteer or paid staff will coordinate this ministry project? Give the names of the steering committee.
 - h. When will the ministry project begin and end?

5. **Metrics:** How will the effectiveness of the project be measured? What metrics will be used?

6. **Sustainability:** Demonstrate post- grant sustainability for funding of the granted ministry and the leaders who will continue the ministry.

7. **Financial Requirements:**
 - a. Amount of request? Two or four year project?
 - b. A detailed budget for the proposed ministry project.
 - c. The budget must specify what present and future financial resources will support this ministry project.
 - Give specific details for existing funds.
 - Give specifics as to how additional funds will be raised.
 - d. What in-kind gifts would support this ministry project?
 - e. Current financials (If applicable).
 - Balance Sheet
 - Profit & Loss Statement
 - Annual Budget

- f. Year-end previous year's financials (If applicable).
 - Year-end Balance Sheet
 - Year-end Profit & Loss Statement
- g. Audited Financial Statement for previous year (If applicable).
- h. Applicant must be current on all diocesan financial obligations.
- i. Applicant must use QuickBooks or an equivalent financial program for finances.

8. **Address the Question:** *"Why should the congregations of the diocese support this grant?"*
9. **Vestry & Dean's Approval:** The proposal will require approval by the congregation's Vestry and Dean in writing.
10. **Nehemiah Process:** Since this is a long term investment on behalf of the diocese, grantees will be expected to participate in the Nehemiah Process or have designated coaches approved by the Bishop's Ministry Grant Committee and the Bishop.
11. **Progress Reports:** Progress reports will be required in writing with full accounting for funds on a semi-annual basis. Reports will be sent to Gail McShane at gail@diosef.org.
12. **Questions:** If there are any questions concerning the application requirements, please contact Gail McShane at 305-373-0881 or gail@diosef.org or Archdeacon Bryan A. Hobbs at 954-450-7247 or dochobbs@bellsouth.net.