2022 Spring Grant Application

Our mission remains to have 100% of United Methodist Churches in Arkansas participate in an initiative to alleviate childhood hunger through feeding ministries, public witness, and education for long-term stability. 200,000 MORE Reasons expands the understanding of education and long-term stability to include such poverty alleviation strategies as literacy and promoting a healthy, stable family. We recognize that by working to alleviate poverty, we have the best opportunity for ending childhood hunger in Arkansas. These ministries can provide access to food now; greater learning potential for the child in the future; and, opportunities for living without food insecurity for the next generation.

Priorities:
1) Seek to close the academic gap for students by offering support for grade level reading, especially for those ages 0 through grade 3. By offering in- or after-school reading help; summer literacy programs; school partnerships; and, building a child's personal library, children may learn to read in order to read to learn.
2) Promote a healthy, stable family for those children we serve in our communities. In opening our doors and ministries to those who face substance abuse crisis; who need greater physical, nutritional, emotional, and mental health literacy; and, who want stronger coping skills for their current life contexts, the church offers hope for a better future for food insecure children.
3) Increase access to food for children, particularly during school breaks and over the weekend, through food distribution, meals, gleaning, and community gardens.

200,000 More Reasons small grants of up to $2,000 will be awarded through a competitive process. United Methodist churches, groups and organizations may apply. If one is applying on behalf of a ministerial alliance or as part of a community or faith-based partnership, then congregational volunteer activity with these groups should be part of the ministry design and expressed in the grant application.

The strongest applications will:
1) Express strong financial need.
2) Intentionally focus on food-insecure children in its ministry design except for those that will promote a healthy, stable family. These should involve the guardians of food-insecure children.
3) Show understanding of the social issues and conditions specific to your community that calls you to action.
4) Incorporate a design that includes more than one priority as listed above.
5) Not be for the same ministry design previously awarded, especially if granted multiple years.

Examples of a feeding ministry that is MORE may be one that offers a support group for grandparents met through a feeding ministry or one that distributes books to children that receive backpacks of food. Other examples are ministries that offer reading skills enrichment for students plus a healthy snack or parenting workshop.

<u>Those applying must at a minimum</u>
    1) meet at least one of the priorities listed above
    2) demonstrate a ministry design that focuses on serving food-insecure <u>children ages 0-18</u>
    3) be a NEW ministry or clearly show an expanded design of previously granted ministries
    4) begin this spring or over the summer. For those ministries that will begin in Fall of 2022, please wait for the next application cycle to be announced for late summer of this year.

<u>Items to note:</u>
1) If your church has received a grant in the past for a <u>feeding</u> ministry for which you are applying again then clearly explain why continued support from this small grant is necessary.
2) Those awarded a grant in the Fall of 2021 may not apply for the same ministry.
3) Ministries that begin operation in the fall of 2022 DO NOT APPLY FOR THIS GRANT. There will be a separate granting process as noted above. Any submissions will not be awarded.
4) Educational and inspirational resources may be found on our website at https://arumc.org/our-ministries/200k-more-reasons/ as well as on Facebook and the 200,000 More Reasons Group.
5) Here is a link to the latest Map the Meal Gap report showing how many children in your county are food insecure. https://map.feedingamerica.org/county/2018/child/arkansas
6) If your ministry design includes extending WIFI capability to those in your community for virtual learning, make sure to show that the plan is technologically possible. For example, include a work order or estimate from the provider.
7) If funds are granted, a written report describing use of the funds must be submitted before September 9, 2022. A report form and more information will be provided closer to time.

<u>Applying:</u>
1) Complete the application after reading the above carefully.
2) Applications are due Friday, March 18th.
3) The online application system does not save or allow you to go back and edit your work. Consider typing the answers to each question and copying it into the online application. Online submissions are preferred since other formats must be entered by hand by staff.
4) If you are not able to complete this form online, download a paper form at https://arumc.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/200KMR-2022SpringGrantApplication.pdf. Return via email or mail to: Mary Lewis Dassinger, Project Coordinator, 200,000 More Reasons, 33 Saint Andrews Drive, Little Rock, AR 72212, mdassinger@arumc.org.
5) For applications submitted correctly online, an auto-generated email acknowledging receipt from "200K More Reasons" should be in your inbox *immediately*. Check your spam/junk folder. If it is not received, then it was not submitted correctly most likely.
6) For paper or emailed applications, please allow 5 days for an email acknowledging receipt from mdassinger@arumc.org. If after this time you have not received an email in your inbox/junk/spam folders, please call Mary Lewis Dassinger at (501) 425-9049.
7) Email is required. Award communications will be made via email no later than April 8, 2022.

200,000 More Reasons Small Grant Application:

Church Name/Organization: _____

Ministry Contact Name: _____

Address: _____

City/Zip: _____

County: _____ ARUMC District: _____

Contact Phone (____) _____ E-Mail _____

Title of Project/Ministry _____

Amount requested (not more than $2,000) $ _____

Please answer the following. *Supporting documents may be included with the grant application.*

1. What is the purpose of your ministry? Describe action(s) to be accomplished with the grant. Include ministry design elements, including the timeframe, hours of ministry, etc.

2. Describe the need in your community. Who will you be serving? How does this ministry build relationships with those in your mission field and community? What type of impact does your ministry make for food-insecure children?

3. List at least 1 goal that you have for this ministry, including but not limited to the number of children you hope to impact. Make the goal(s) easily measurable. Some examples include the number of children involved in summer reading; the number of books distributed through weekend backpack food; the number of households with children given food; or, the number of food pantry visitors involved in small group setting.

4. If this ministry is a project for which you received a grant for previously, how does this request expand or differentiate itself from that prior grant application?

5. Provide a budget for the ministry. Include expenses (name/type) and estimated amounts/costs. What percent of the total budgeted cost of your ministry does this grant request cover?

6. Provide a budget narrative: describe your financial need; and, explain budgeted costs where helpful. If this grant award will meet specific budget items, indicate which one(s). What partners or other financial resources do you have? How will you fund this ministry beyond this grant?

7. Does this ministry involve other local United Methodist church(es)? Which ones and what are the respective roles for each?

8. Did the church pay tithe apportionments in the previous year? (circle) Yes   No