

## DREAM GRANTS

The purpose of the Dream Grant is to help spark local churches to dream how they could reach out beyond their walls and be a more effective witness in their local community. The goal is not to help churches make improvements to historic buildings or buy a video projector for their sanctuary, but inspire them to imagine what new thing they could do if they had the seed money to do it.

Grant applicants can be churches, groups, or organizations that are formally related to the United Methodist Church in the Alabama-West Florida Conference (i.e. local churches, youth groups, Sunday school classes, local mission organizations). The following guidelines will be the basic criteria the CORE Team (more info on our conference core team is available at: <https://www.awfumc.org/conferencecoreteam>) uses to evaluate applicants:

- The ministry's primary target audience should be those outside the current membership.
- The ministry should be a new project or a significant re-imagining of an existing ministry.
- The organization must demonstrate how the grant will enable something new to happen that would not be possible without the funding. They should be able to specify why they need the particular amount (up to \$1,000), and what other funds will be available to continue the effort after the grant is spent.
- Organizations must have designed specific measures that will indicate whether or not a ministry has attained its goals of both reaching their target audience and accomplishing their purpose with that target audience.
- Grants are not offered on an ongoing basis, but applicants can re-apply if they can demonstrate success at their desired outcomes and how further funding can help move into a new area or begin a new facet of the ministry. These grants are not for ongoing funding.

After grants are approved, funds will be distributed to organizations in a lump sum. Applicants will be required to submit a follow-up report detailing how the funds were used and how the outcomes were or were not attained. If the outcomes were not accomplished, be sure to include why your team feels you were unable to accomplish what you set out to do.

*hi* /

## APPLICATION FOR DREAM GRANT

Name of Ministry/Organization: x

Location of Ministry/Organization:

District:

Local Church Affiliation:

Contact Person:

Address:

Telephone Number:

E-mail address:

Requested Grant for 2018: \$

Total Amount of ALL Funding Needed for the Ministry in 2018 and the sources for that money:

Briefly describe the challenge or problem this ministry is being created to solve. (i.e why does it exist?):

How (in what ways) is your ministry "solving" that challenge or problem?

Briefly describe the "who" this ministry exists to serve/help/resource.

How will this ministry help to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world? Why should the Alabama-West Florida Conference support this ministry?

What is the Funding Plan for the next 3-5 years?

How do you measure success for your ministry?

**- FINANCIAL INFORMATION -**

Please submit copies of the following:

1. Projected 2018 Budget (Receipts and Expenditures)
  - . (If ongoing project) Attach latest Completed Audit

Signature of applicant

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Name                      Date

As the District Superintendent, I endorse this request.

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District Superintendent's Signature

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Date

This application must be signed by the District Superintendent.

*The Common Table for Church Vitality is piloting an Accelerator Model that will provide a level of support beyond financial grants. Please indicate if you are interested in learning more about this pilot project.*

*Yes, I am interested in learning more about this pilot project of Common Table.*

**EMAIL TO: (need better address) (preferred)**

or MAIL TO: Director of Connectional Ministries, 4719 Woodmere Blvd., Montgomery, AL  
36106

**DEADLINE: August 1, 2018**



Rev. Ronald Ball, Executive Director  
567 Laurel Drive, Abbeville, AL 36310  
Phone: 850-624-2372      [tball8859@yahoo.com](mailto:tball8859@yahoo.com)

### **SUGGESTED STRUCTURE FOR AWF CONFERENCE NEW MINISTRY LAUNCH PROCESS**

Suggest putting together a system that guides the process to be a serving and discipleship process.

VALUES: Why do we do what we do, and what are our foundational values?

\*To guide people in Reaching Out, Growing In Faith and Service, and Making Disciples of Jesus Christ.

Emphasis on:

New, Innovative Ministries or Revitalization of Ministries  
Development Self-sustaining Ministries  
Developing Leaders to Reproduce the Process  
Measurable Results

Expectations:

Expanding the Church's Presence in the Community  
Forming a Web of Ministry Mentors Across AWF  
Creating a Culture of Service and Disciple-making  
Transformed Lives and Communities

Tie into the "Next Steps", by assessing what is the "Next Best First Thing" for this Church family/Organization to do in order to serve the community and make disciples?

Organize Conference-Wide (maybe breakdown by Districts), and bring teams from each ministry together to learn from each other and receive training/encouragement. At the training, plan to do the following:

- Leaders receive training at the beginning of the launch, looking at their local district, church, and community context.
- Ask and answer, "Why Do This First?"
- Clarify the Mission/Vision

- Help With Financial Structure
- Practical Help with People Skills, Team Building, Visioning, and Demographics
- Ask and Answer, "How will we measure success?"

**Follow-up Steps:**

Calendar Video Conference Calls with ministry leaders

Set benchmarks/dates for progress

What are leading/lagging indicators in terms of progress toward Mission?

Window Date for Assessment with Leaders of Ministries and Application for Renewal of Grants

Use Conference/District/Local Church social media to communicate success stories and inspire others to step out into new areas of ministry in their respective communities.



**Rev. Ronald Ball, Director**  
**567 Laurel Drive, Abbeville, AL 36310**  
**Phone: 850-624-2372 [tball8859@yahoo.com](mailto:tball8859@yahoo.com)**

**Name of Ministry/Organization** \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Information for Organization (phone, email, address)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Point Person Contact Information:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Local Church Affiliation** \_\_\_\_\_

**District** \_\_\_\_\_

**Is This a New Ministry?**  
**When did/will it Launch?**

**If Already Existing:**

**How Long In Existence?**

**Provide Financial Info from previous years**

**Provide Success Data from previous years**

**Money Received From AWF Conference in previous years**

**Money Received From Other Sources**

**How Many People Are Involved in Serving Through This Ministry?**

**Number of Employees:**

**Full Time** \_\_\_\_\_

**Part Time** \_\_\_\_\_

**Volunteers** \_\_\_\_\_

**Purpose/Goal for This Ministry:**

**(What contextual need does this meet?)**

**Include information re: "who" this ministry reaches, "how" it helps them, and "how" is it designed to make disciples of Jesus Christ as you serve.**

**How will you measure your success?**

**What is your long-range plan for ministry and funding?**

**Who is the Treasurer? Is the Treasurer Bonded?**

**Total Funding Required for This Year**

**Total Funding Available from Other Sources (List sources & amount)**

**Amount of Grant Requested**

**District Superintendent** \_\_\_\_\_

**Pastor** \_\_\_\_\_

**Director of Requesting Ministry** \_\_\_\_\_