

RCA CHURCH MULTIPLICATION TEAM

NEW CONGREGATION MATCHING GRANT GUIDELINES

PURPOSE

This matching grant is to build partnerships with churches, classis, regional synods and the RCA denomination to further the Kingdom of God by providing resources to ministries that bring the good news of God's grace to a hurting world.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Church Multiplication Team (CMT) currently has grants available for regional synod, classis, and parent congregations that have completed a "New Congregation Plan".

- Application can be made for these funds when the Church Multiplication Team has approved a New Congregation Plan (NCP) for the ministry.
- The Apostolic Council of the CMT meets frequently by conference call to discuss New Congregation Plans and act on grant requests. An approved 100 point scale is used to determine eligibility and priority, since we have an increasing number of new congregations applying.
- Grants are paid out in December and June. Before the second or third year grant is disbursed a one-page written update of the ministry must be sent to the Coordinator of Church Multiplication (tvink@rca.org). These updates need to be received by November 10th and May 10th to assure their timely disbursement.

MAXIMUM GRANT: Up to \$22,000 OVER 3 YEARS

1. Grants will be awarded for ministry or rent expenses only (capital expenses are not eligible).
2. The grant cannot provide for more than 1/3 of the congregation's budget in any year.
3. All applications from churches, classes and synods must be approved by the regional synod.
4. Grant applications are sent to the Coordinator for Church Multiplication (Tim Vink) after they are complete and signed by a classis officer and a regional synod executive. (Hard copy signatures and electronic versions are acceptable.)

RCA CHURCH MULTIPLICATION GRANT APPLICATION

Date: ___/___/___

Name of Organization: _____

Amount Requested: _____

Other Funding Sources:
(Not including grant from CMT)

1st year

2nd year

3rd year

Name _____

Name _____

Name _____

Name _____

Name _____

Name _____

Total Budget of Ministry:

▪ Summary of the mission of the New Congregation: (Add one sheet if necessary or attach the New Congregation Plan)

▪ System for Evaluation and Supervision of the New Congregation / Ministry:

Your Name (applicant): _____

Address: _____ Phone #: _____

Responsible contact person to oversee grant disbursement checks _____

Contact person's phone# _____ email address _____

Classis: _____ Classis Approval: _____ Date: _____

Regional Synod: _____ Regional Synod Approval: _____ Date: _____

Send completed application to:

Tim Vink, Coordinator for Church Multiplication
4500 E. 60th SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49512
616-698-7071 (x310)
tvink@rca.org

Grant Criteria for New Congregational Plans (NCP)

Church Multiplication Team 2-06

On a 100 point scale, the following criteria will help assess each grant application with greater clarity, objectivity and speed:

Multiplication Potential – 10

- Does this new congregation clearly articulate a multiplication mindset for disciples, groups, leaders and churches? Does the expressed commitment to become a “church that plants other churches” show strong promise of happening, and when?

Strategic Placement – 20

- **Regional Pioneer (10)**
 - Does this new congregation strategically advance the Kingdom in a particularly challenging location or people group; with a fresh model of ministry that fits the context well, or establish a beachhead for further planting work in a unique way?
- **Diversity (5)**
 - Does this new congregation demonstrate a conviction to see every tribe and tongue together in Christ, helping the RCA reach the objective of 1/3 of the 400 new congregations by December 2013 being multicultural or ethnic/racial plants? Does this congregation affirm the leadership gifts of women? Those with disability embraced?
- **Prayer Team (5)**
 - How well developed is the prayer, fasting and spiritual empowerment foundation of this new congregation, since apart from Christ we can “do nothing”?

Leadership Support – 30

- **Assessment (10)**
 - How strong are the scores on the Gallup, Ridley, or other assessment tools for the planter or team?
- **Training (10)**
 - Have attended or will attend a *Thrive* team training event or similar “boot camp”? Other experience or training noteworthy? In a planter’s network?
- **Coaching (10)**
 - Is there an identified and trained coach for the planter?

Strategic Financial Need – 40

- To what degree does this grant for potentially \$22,000 over three years meet a financial need that cannot be met by releasing more resources locally (parent church, classis...)? How does this grant leverage any money for the first three years of the congregation’s life that will enable other resources to be raised from the harvest? (Avoiding dependencies, demonstrating early maturity and giving back to the planting movement?)

The Church Multiplication Team’s Apostolic Council will review grant applications year round in order to create a smooth process between the Church Multiplication Team meetings. Information will be sought from Regional leaders and shared with the whole CMT as actions are taken.