

# **Ministry Proposal Application**

Thank you for taking the initiative to build the Kingdom of God through innovative ministry. Regardless if we are able to provide funding for this endeavor, we want you to know we appreciate the fact that you are trying to do something different to reach people for Christ.

Our team is tasked with the responsibility of being a good steward of the resources entrusted to our care. We work hard to direct these funds to where they can do the greatest good. To help us effectively match these resources with potential we ask that you to please provide us with the following information:

## **1. Name & location of proposed ministry and leadership in place:**

## **2. Using MissionInsite information on your target area, demonstrate the ministry potential for the area and include the following:**

2.1 What are the geographic boundaries of the target area?

2.2 What is the overall population of this mission field?

2.3 What is the projected population of this mission field?

2.4 What is the make-up of that population (to include ethnic makeup, age, generation)?

2.5 What is the overall education level of this mission field?

2.6 What is the average household income?

2.7 What are the Mosaic profiles of this mission field?

2.8 Are there identifiable values held by this mission field?

2.9 What are the life concerns relative to this mission field?

2.10 Are there any large populations that relate to an institution such as a college, military base, or other?

2.11 Are there future developments planned for the area?

2.12 Using the community profile and demographics,

a) Write ONE paragraph that describes the average person(s) a church in this mission field would need to reach.

b) In a SECOND paragraph, describe what kind of church would best reach these persons.

**3. Discover Current Ministry:**

3.1 List all non-United Methodist Christian churches currently in the mission field and their approximate age on the following chart.

| Name of Non-UM Congregation | Was it started within the past 12 months? y/n | If not, was it started in the last 5 years? y/n | If not, approximate age of congregation |
|-----------------------------|---|---|---|
|                             |   |   |   |
|                             |   |   |   |
|                             |   |   |   |
|                             |   |   |   |
|                             |   |   |   |
|                             |   |   |   |

3.2 Of the churches in the chart above, list your sense of the top 3 most vital non-United Methodist churches within the mission field in the table below.

| Name of Non-UM Church | Approximate Worship Attendance | Who are they reaching? |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|
|                       |                                |                        |
|                       |                                |                        |
|                       |                                |                        |

3.3 List the United Methodist Congregations in the missional area.

| Name Congregation | Approximate Worship Attendance | Who are they reaching? |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|
|                   |                                |                        |
|                   |                                |                        |
|                   |                                |                        |

**4. Strategic Priorities**

4.1 Propose a ministry model to reach the needs of the mission area:

- a. New worship service      b. A new campus of an existing church
- c. New Church              d. New leadership      e. Coaching and training

Write a description below of the proposed/recommended ministry.

4.2 Does this ministry need for land to be purchased? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

*If yes, identify land for purchase in the path of projected growth, or look for land already owned by another church or the district that might be suitable. List possible options/sites below in order of priority.*

**5. List Support from other entities (District, etc)**

5.1 Financial \_\_\_\_\_

5.2 Leadership \_\_\_\_\_

5.3 Facility/Land \_\_\_\_\_

5.4 Training \_\_\_\_\_

5.5 Other resources \_\_\_\_\_

5.6 Funding received in the past three years (in/out of conference) \_\_\_\_\_

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5.6 Are there other UM churches that will partner with a new worshipping community for funding and resources purposes? If yes, please list

1) \_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_

3) \_\_\_\_\_

5.7 Is there a sponsoring congregation? \_\_\_\_\_

**6. Conference Support Requesting:**

6.1 Financial \_\_\_\_\_

6.2 Leadership \_\_\_\_\_

6.3 Facility/Land \_\_\_\_\_

6.4 Training \_\_\_\_\_

6.5 Other Resources \_\_\_\_\_

**7. Budget and Benchmarks:**

7.1 Insert budget for the first year here. Include startup and operating cost.

7.2 Insert budget for 2<sup>nd</sup> year here.

7.3 Include funding plan with budgets.

7.4 Include projected outcomes to be used as evaluative benchmarks.

**a. One Year**

Avg. Worship Attendance \_\_\_\_\_

Professions Of Faith \_\_\_\_\_

Small Group participation \_\_\_\_\_

People involved in mission & ministry \_\_\_\_\_

Financial Stewardship \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

**b. 18 months**

Avg. Worship Attendance \_\_\_\_\_ Professions Of Faith \_\_\_\_\_ Small Group participation \_\_\_\_\_  
People involved in mission & ministry \_\_\_\_\_ Financial Stewardship \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**c. 2 years**

Avg. Worship Attendance \_\_\_\_\_ Professions Of Faith \_\_\_\_\_ Small Group participation \_\_\_\_\_  
People involved in mission & ministry \_\_\_\_\_ Financial Stewardship \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**d. 3 years**

Avg. Worship Attendance \_\_\_\_\_ Professions Of Faith \_\_\_\_\_ Small Group participation \_\_\_\_\_  
People involved in mission & ministry \_\_\_\_\_ Financial Stewardship \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Project Funding Approval Process**

**Phase 1** During Phase 1 the following events will typically occur in no particular order:

- Conversations between:
  - Congregational Development Director and District Superintendent.
  - Congregational Development Director and potential ministry leadership
  - Congregational Development Director and Bishop concerning appointments
  - Congregational Development Director and Pastors in surrounding area
  - Congregational Development Director and DS with relevant congregations.
- Project Proposal is completed and submitted to Congregational Development office.

**Phase 2**

- Funding sources such as: District Missions boards, Equitable Compensations, Sponsor Congregations, etc. will be verified by CD Director.
- Proposals will be reviewed by Congregational Development funding approval team.

- The CD team will invite selected proposal sponsors to make a personal presentation and answer questions from the CD Team.

- The CD team will select ministry proposals to financially support with conference funding based on the following criteria:

### **1) Potential impact**

*As evidenced by, but not limited to, these factors:*

- *Demographic data*
- *Ministry plan well matched to opportunity*
- *Under reached target audience*
- *Significant target audience growth*

### **2) Probability of success**

*As evidenced by, but not limited to, these factors:*

- *Well-planned strategy ministry plan*
- *Strong proven leadership*
- *Multiple stake holders*
- *Solid financial situation*

### **3) Collaboration**

*As evidenced by, but not limited to, these factors:*

- *Multiple funding sources*
- *Sponsoring Congregation*
- *Connections to existing vital congregation*
- *Connections to other organization(s) in the area*

### **4) Receptivity of local community**

*As evidenced by, but not limited to, these factors:*

- *Support of area congregations*
- *Number of effective ministries already in the area*
- *Significant funding from within the community*
- *Level of local lay leadership involved*

### **5) Leadership**

*As evidenced by, but not limited to, these factors:*

- *Track record*
- *Gifts and calling*
- *Teams they build and lead*
- *Match to the area*

## **6) Level of commitment**

*As evidenced by, but not limited to, these factors*

- *Quality of presentation and proposals*
- *Depth and detail of ministry proposal*
- *Timely completion of assignments*
- *Resolve to do it with or without funding approval*

## **7) Expert opinion**

*The persons selected to serve on the Congregational Development's Ministry Proposal Approval team are gifted church leaders with a proven track record of fruitful ministry. Their wealth of experience and knowledge helps them detect intangibles that contribute greatly to the success of ministries. The point of this category is to allow the evaluators to rate the ministry based on their intuitive or "gut" for the proposal.*

## **Phase 3**

Support and evaluation will continue throughout the funding period. If the CD team determines that benchmarks are not being met they may discontinue funding.