Grants for Ministries with Youth and Young Adults

Deadline: Midnight on Monday, April 16, 2018

Return application to:
ATTN: PGA Council Grants Committee
Presbytery of Greater Atlanta
1024 Ponce de Leon Ave. NE
Atlanta, GA 30306
Or email to:
grants@atlpcusa.org
Grants for PGA Ministries with Young People

Purpose of Grants for PGA Ministries with Young People
The funding opportunities PGA provides for ministries with young people are for creative, innovative approaches to individual and collaborative ministries on behalf of young people.

The possibilities for the future growth of our ministries for, with, and by young people are endless. But the time is now for every individual, community, church, and campus ministry to see themselves as partners in this ministry. The only way to accomplish this task is for the Church, on all fronts, to unite behind this mission and share with young people everywhere the Good News of God’s unconditional love through Jesus Christ.

The donations from the PGA Capital Funds Campaign make this PGA grant program possible for ministries with young people. The grants are designed to enable creative, life-transforming ministries with young people to take hold and begin to spread the fire and passion throughout our Presbytery of Greater Atlanta (PGA), our communities and ultimately, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Funded projects will address the causes of critical issues related to young people in their local context, with an eye towards how their work can have a broad impact on the priorities of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

Eligible Applicants
Eligible applicants are local churches within the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta, including approved fellowships, new church developments, and campus ministries. Seminary students serving in youth or young adult ministries within the PGA churches are also eligible to apply for this grant to receive a two-year stipend that may be used for their personal expenses. *First-time applicants receive funding priority.*

Eligible applicants will also meet the following criteria:
- The project or program must be driven in design for young people (age 12 or grade 6 to age 40) within and/or outside the church. It is strongly recommended that project submissions show how young people were included in some or all stages of the planning/design/implementation process.
- The project must have a strong biblical/theological foundation.
- The project should reflect the diversity of racial, gender, and class differences both in its church, community and leadership, as well as in its desired impact within the Church and community. Returning applicants must have completed and returned all applicable progress reports and documentation on time.

Application Process
*Applications must be received in the PGA Office by Midnight, Monday, April 16, 2018.* If mailed or hand-delivered, applicants must submit three-hole punched and stapled original and six copies of their application to the Grants Committee of the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta Council. Applications may also be emailed to grants@atlpusa.org. The Grants Committee, comprised of people representing the diverse membership (region, race, gender, clergy, lay) of our Presbytery, will review applications.

Allocation of Grants
Each grant recipient may be awarded up to $5,000. Funds may be used for, but are not limited to, project’s program or administrative expenses, including salaries or speaker fees. Funds *may not* be used for capital expenditures (e.g., building expenses, rent or any other such fees related to property). Notifications will be sent by May 31, 2018.
Final Progress Report
Each project or ministry receiving grant money will be responsible for completing a final project report, including a financial report detailing use of the funds awarded and an evaluation of the success of the program to date. A sample progress report will be included with your grant notification letter. **Failure to comply with this requirement will lead to termination of funding and/or repayment of funding.**

Grant Category
Grants will be reviewed according to one of the four categories that reflect the vision and mission of the PGA & PC(USA): **Justice/Advocacy, Discipleship & Evangelism, Mission/Outreach, and Leadership Development/Ministry Discernment.** Submit your grant proposal under one of the following four categories.

Justice/Advocacy
“Such acts of compassion, done corporately and individually, are the work of the church as the body of Christ. The church is called to minister to the immediate needs and hours of people. The church is also called to engage those structures and systems, which create or foster brokenness and distortion. Christians respond to these calls through acts of advocacy and compassion, through service in common ministries of the church, and through cooperation with agencies and organizations committed to these ends.” (Book of Order, W-7.3003)

The following criteria should be met when applying in the Justice/Advocacy category: The project shall concretely empower young people in the ethical and spiritual interpretation, application and implementation of “acts of compassion,” as articulated in the Book of Order, Part II of the Constitution of the PC(USA). The proposal will communicate how members of a community impacted by the program/project are involved in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of the project. The proposal shall list and describe existing assets in the community that the project will seek to form a long-term alliance. The proposal must demonstrate a connection between justice and mercy, and discuss how root causes and sustainable solutions will be addressed through the project. The project will engage in at least one of the following activities to co-create just relationships:

Please check all that apply to your project
- **Leadership Development**: relating national and global systemic/structural issues of cultural, social, economic, and environmental public policy concerns to methods for advocacy and organizing led and envisioned by young people, with particular attention to gender, racial, and/or economic justice.
- **Public Policy Advocacy**: educating and advocating in the church and society on behalf of issues that have a direct impact on the lives of young people, such as substance or physical abuse, violence, racism, labor, environment, sexuality, gender equity, technology and media, war, and poverty.
- **Justice with Mercy**: assisting and supporting young people, as they make faithful connections between acts of mercy and systemic advocacy for justice in the local, national, and global community.

Discipleship & Evangelism
“The Church strives to be faithful to the good news it has received and accountable to the standards of the confessions. The Church seeks to present the claims of Jesus Christ, leading persons to repentance, acceptance of Christ alone as Savior and Lord, and new life as his disciples. The Church is sent to be Christ’s faithful evangelist: 1) making disciples of all nations in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit; 2) sharing with others a deep life of worship, prayer, fellowship, and service; and 3) participating in God’s mission to care for the needs of the sick, poor, and lonely, to free people from sin, suffering, and oppression; and to establish Christ’s just, loving, and peaceable rule in the world.” (Book of Order, F-1.0302d)

The following criteria should be met when applying in the Discipleship & Evangelism category: As believers, we are called to live as disciples of Jesus Christ in the world. We trust in the work of the Holy
Spirit to help us as children of God, to fulfill our common call to discipleship in the world. The project’s primary purpose shall be to assist the Church with efforts to share the love of God through the gospel of Jesus Christ, helping these persons to grow in their understanding of God and will for their lives. The project should focus on one or more of the following:

**Please check all that apply to your project**

- [ ] **Develop and provide resources, training, and consultation** for one of the following:
  - Congregational leaders (including clergy and laity, young people and adults), as they enhance and evaluate the ministries of the church and initiate new forms of ministry that nurture faith, build Christian community, and equip young people for ministry in daily life.

- [ ] **Provide opportunities for spiritual development of young people**
  - Develop new movements or sustain existing campus ministries.
  - Develop new movements or sustain existing youth ministry programs/fellowships.

- [ ] **Provide resources and training** that will assist one of the following:
  - PGA churches and their members in building, improving, or sustaining systems that support the development of young people as spiritual leaders for congregations.
  - Leaders of all ages in planning and administering comprehensive youth and young adult ministries that encourage life-long learning and growth in faith that strengthen understanding of God and relationship with God and other people, and lead to spiritual maturity in faith and in practice. The resources and training should consider youth and young-adult ministries in continuity with children’s, adult, and older-adult ministries.

**Mission/Outreach**

“The great ends of the Church are the proclamation of the gospel for the salvation of humankind; the shelter, nurture, and spiritual fellowship of the children of God; the maintenance of divine worship; the preservation of the truth; the promotion of social righteousness; and the exhibition of the Kingdom of Heaven to the world.” (Book of Order, F-1.0304)

Projects in the Mission/Outreach category will meet the following criteria: The project advocates the work for the unity of Christ’s church through witness and service with other Christian churches and/or agencies.

The project or program should focus on one or more of the following:

**Please check all that apply to your project**

- [ ] Leadership, development and training for young people
- [ ] Building, organizing, and strengthening youth-led/youth-developed movements and networks within church, ecumenical, and/or non-governmental organizations
- [ ] Economic development
- [ ] Conflict resolution and alternatives to violence or social injustice
- [ ] Reintegration to society for refugees and other displaced people
- [ ] Youth-generated outreach, such as mission education or mission related travel

**Leadership Development/Ministry Discernment**

*The Church’s ministry is a gift from Jesus Christ to the whole Church. Christ alone rules, calls, teaches, and uses the Church as he wills, exercising his authority by the ministry of women and men for the establishment and extension of God’s new creation. Christ’s ministry is the foundation and standard for all ministry, the pattern of the one who came “not to be served but to serve” (Matt. 20:28). The basic form of ministry is the ministry of the whole people of God, from whose midst some are called to ordered ministries, to fulfill particular functions. Members and those in ordered ministries serve together under the mandate of Christ.” (Book of Order, G-2.0101)*

Projects in the Leadership Development/Ministry Discernment category will meet the following criteria: The project will give young people opportunities to live their faith through ministry to others—through
outreach, in-service learning, and mission. Projects in this category should engage in at least one of the following activities:

Please check all that apply to your project
Prepare a new generation of Christian leaders to:
- Equip young people with the skills they need to be healthy, whole individuals who can provide leadership in the local church, the community, and the world.
- Provide a safe environment where young people can share their hurts, pains, and disappointment/anger for healing, reconciliation, and wholeness through mutual care, support, and acceptance in the presence of God.
- Encourage young people to live out God’s vision for themselves and others, with hope for a just and inclusive world.
- Challenge young people to consider academic and administrative leadership for the Presbyterian-related institutions of higher education.
- Provide young people with opportunities for ministry discernment:
  - Provide opportunities for young people to sense and discern God’s call into the ordained ministry and learn about various ministry settings—local congregation, hospital/prison/military chaplain, university or college chaplain, campus minister, etc.
  - Provide young people with tools to evaluate, understand, and articulate a broad perspective about the faith—doctrines, ideology, witness, etc.

Statement of Purpose
Write a clear and concise purpose statement, indicating the focus and vision for your project. In addition, include a response to the way the project fits the purpose and criteria of the grant category. If awarded, this statement may be used to promote the ministry. This statement should be limited to 250 words.

Grant Application Questions
Please answer all questions. Include questions and responses on a separate sheet. All responses must be typed and should not exceed five (5) pages in length.

1. How have young people been involved in the planning and design of your project? How will they be involved in the ongoing leadership of your project?

2. Transformation is grounded in teaching, learning, leadership development, and spiritual formation. How does your project address these elements of transformation? How does this project call, equip, and empower young people to be agents of transformation in the church and/or community?

3. How does your project demonstrate inclusiveness and cultural sensitivity in design and implementation?

4. What are the biblical/theological foundations for your project? Why do you see it as foundational?

5. What factors in the church, community or culture have led you to the creation of your project?

6. What specific problems or issues are you seeking to address?

7. What assets/resources have you identified in the community that can/will serve to support this project?
8. How will your project nurture young people in their faith journey?

9. How will your project enhance the overall ministry with young people in your church, community, and presbytery?

10. What is your strategy for sharing learning and ministry design with other local churches, presbyteries, and PC(USA) organizations across the connectional system?

11. How will you evaluate your project throughout its implementation? What standards and procedures will you use to determine the effectiveness of the project?

Additional Attachments

Please include the following items:

- **Budget Narrative** for the project as well as a budget for the sponsoring organization (if applicable). The budget must also include other sources of funding and already secured and/or being sought after.
- **Implementation Timetable** for various project components.
- **A Statement of Support** from at least two young people involved in the development of this project.
- **A Letter of Support** or endorsement from your church’s session.
- **A Letter of Support** from at least one of the following:
  - Christian Education Ministry Team of your supporting church
  - Local Church Pastor
  - Youth Ministry Coordinator/Minister/Volunteer
  - Ecumenical, Community, or Funding partners (whenever applicable)

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Atlanta, GA 30306

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