Classis Lake Erie

Mission Grant Information

Revised 2019

**What is the CLE Mission Grant?**

This is program would be used for catalyzing mission within our churches and communities. We desire to see our Kingdom presence in our communities continue to expand and deepen. It is the church of Jesus Christ who must listen to the command of Jesus when He said, “Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you” (Mt. 28:19-20). The intent of this grant is to help churches follow the Great Commission by offering financial assistance to selected outreach opportunities.

The Fund would work on an application process, submitted to a “Mission Grant” committee appointed by CLE. An initial grant application deadline for submission would be developed by this committee, and then applications would be considered by this committee at regular times throughout the year.

This grant is to be used by the churches of Classis Lake Erie to begin new initiatives that have an external outreach focus and are designed to engage the body of the church in evangelism.

**Who may participate in this grant?**

All organized churches, ministries and new church developments in Classis Lake Erie may apply for this grant. We would also encourage applicant churches or ministries to partner and collaborate with other local organizations and ministries in their efforts.

**How does the funding work?**

Ministries may apply for a grant once per year from the Classis Lake Erie Mission Fund. The attached Grant Application must be typed and returned to the CLEMF Committee electronically. Upon receiving the application, the CLEMF Committee will review the application (please include a list of expected costs) to make certain it is clearly focused on outreach and within the spirit of the grant program. An evaluation form must also be typed out and returned to the CLEMF Committee within one year of receiving the grant. No new grants will be issued to any church who fails to return an evaluation form from its previously approved grant.

**Are there any deadlines for applications?**

There are no deadlines. Applications may be turned in to the CLEMF at any time throughout the year. The committee will meet regularly throughout the year to review applications.

**Are there any other requirements?**

Along with filling out the application form there is one key element which must be faithfully practiced: PRAYER! It is expected that your church will surround your project with prayer. It is also the wishes of the CLEMF Committee that these grants will be used to fund NEW congregational outreach opportunities and not intended to be used to fund already existing programs or staff positions. We will however give grants to existing outreach efforts at our discretion. These grants will be given with a graduated rate of decline to be determined by the committee.

**What are some examples of approvable requests?**

The CLEMF Committee is open to creative ideas which are clearly focused on outreach into our communities. These ideas must be consistent with Biblical teachings and must not conflict with Reformed teachings. A few examples to stimulate your thoughts include the following:

* Trainings in local mission for your congregation (Go Local)
* Initiatives that will encourage your church to get involved in relationships in your local community (Kids Hope, block party, book clubs)
* Projects that involve experiments in Community engagement (prayer walking, events)
* Identifying and equipping missional leaders within your congregation/community (evangelism training)
* Supporting a local community initiative (interfaith dialogue, food bank, community garden, ESL classes)
* Initiating a new project with a local mission partner/agency
* Efforts for an existing church to explore church planting (evaluation, church planting conferences, Mission Insight report)

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Mission Fund Grant Application

1. General Information

 a. Name of Church:

 b. Mailing Address:

 c. Primary Contact regarding this request:

d. Phone/Email Address of Contact Person:

2. Explain your project, including the intended audience, timeline, summary of the idea, your goals (how will you know if it is successful?), and your plan for reflecting and learning from this project.

1. Project description:
2. Intended audience:
3. Timeline:
4. Goals:
5. Will you have any collaborative partners? Who?
6. Describe how this project might positively impact the spiritual growth of your church.
7. How will you reflect on this endeavor:

3. Budget

Please include a budget, with sufficient detail, that indicates how the requested funds will be used:

 What is the total cost of the project? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

5. Council Approval:

 Date approved in Council: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Chair of Council: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please email your typed outreach project application to <email address>

If you do not have access to email, you may mail your application to: <address>

Classis Lake Erie

Mission Fund Grant Evaluation Form

Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please type out the following evaluation form and return it to CLEMF Committee after your project is completed. Please email to: <email address>

1. Name of Church: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

2. In what ways did you involve prayer in your project?

3. Briefly summarize your project along with the goals you hoped to achieve.

4. What evidence is there that the goals were indeed accomplished?

5. Where did you see God at work through your program in ways that you never expected?

6. Did you find this grant to be helpful? Would you recommend it to others? Explain.

7. In what ways can this Mission Fund process be improved?

8. Any additional comments