

## Purpose of Grants for Ministries with Young People

The funding opportunities we provide for ministries with young people are for creative, innovative approaches to ministries for, with, and by young people. The purpose of these grants is to fund dynamic, creative ministries with 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 church, campus ministry, community, annual conference, and individual 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 in Christ.

The funds available through the grants for young people are designed to enable creative, life-transforming ministries with young people to take hold and begin to spread the fire and passion for this ministry throughout the denomination. Funded projects will address the causes of critical issues related to young people in their local context, with an eye toward how their work can have a broad impact on the priorities of The United Methodist Church in a broader context.

## Eligible Applicants

Eligible applicants are local United Methodist churches in the United States and Central Conferences, including cooperative parishes and ecumenical shared ministries; Annual Conferences and Districts in the United States and Central Conferences; and other United Methodist entities, such as campus ministries, youth serving agencies, and so forth. Eligible applicants will also meet the following criteria:

- The project or program must be driven in design and implemented by young people (ages 12-30) within and outside the church.
- The project must have a strong biblical/theological foundation.
- The project/program must reflect a diversity of racial, gender, and class differences both in its leadership and in its desired impact within the Church and community.

## Dollar Range of Grants

The dollar range of the grants is up to \$15,000. Funds may be used for, but are not limited to, program expenses, capital expenditures, and so forth. No more than 25% of the total grant amount shall be allocated for administrative expenses, including salaries, ensuring at least 75% for program expenses. Projects funded for one year must reapply for continued funding the following year in time to meet the annual application deadline.

## Application Process

Applications must be **received by June 1<sup>st</sup>**. Applicants will submit their application to Young People's Ministries (YPM) of Discipleship Ministries through the online application form. YPM will convene a Project Review Committee, comprised of youth, young adults, and adult workers with young people from the Young People's Ministries board of directors, general board and agency representatives, and staff, to review and discuss the applications that meet all of the criteria. The full division board will vote on a list of recommended projects with the final approval coming from Discipleship Ministries' executive committee.

Projects selected to receive funding will:

- Receive a notification about funding by 1 November.
- Be required to return a Good Faith Agreement and financial information by 1 January.
- Receive funds by check or wire transfer in January and July.
- Be required to submit two progress and financial reports—one to receive the second payment and one following the funding year.

The final payment date can be altered if the project shows a distinct need. Failure to comply with the requirements will lead to termination of funding or prevent receiving funds in the future.