2023 Enduring Witness Grant Program

Presented by the Commission on Thriving Congregations
May 23, 2023

Welcome and Introductions

About the Commission on Thriving Congregations

Offering a range of resources, the Commission on Thriving Congregations intends to encourage, challenge and equip congregations throughout the Presbytery to become so spiritually alive and so creatively engaged with their communities that those around them will be drawn to share in the abundance of their dynamic life in Christ.

Purpose of Enduring Witness Grants

Many churches in our Presbytery are seeking to transform themselves through the development of viable and vibrant ministries, yet some lack the current leadership or membership capacity to fully realize their goals. Enduring Witness Grants are designed to provide churches with the resources to pursue this *transformative* work.

Timeline

Thriving is holding ONE round of applications in 2023 on the following timeline:

- Applications Open: May 23, 2023
- Application Deadline: July 31, 2023
- Decisions Announced: End of September 2023
- Awards Issued: October 2023

Application Types

There are three types of Enduring Witness Grants:

1. Board of Pensions
2. Program
3. Capital

Churches may only submit ONE application per grant cycle. If multiple grant types seem relevant to your congregation's work, choose the one you think is the best fit.

Board of Pensions

- Supports assistance for pension dues to supplement part-time pastoral leadership so that it can become a full-time role
- Award amount based on demonstrated need
- Average grant award: $19,000
- Churches may apply for 3 consecutive years of funding. Award amounts generally decrease each year the grant is awarded.

Program

- Provides assistance for Congregational transformation and intentional evangelism through programmatic initiatives
- Maximum request: $35,000
- Average grant award: $10,273
- Demonstrating how the program will be sustained is especially important, especially in regards to any funds that will cover/hire a new staff person

Capital

- Assistance for capital building costs/repairs related to a programmatic initiative.
- Maximum request: $35,000
- Average grant award: $14,918
- Capital improvements must facilitate congregational transformation, not just maintain ongoing activities

Application Components

1. Cover sheet
1. Application Questions
2. Attachments
   a. ALL applicants must attach their budget for this year
   b. Program and Capital grant applicants must submit a project budget using the template Thriving provides
   c. Capital grant applicants are encouraged to submit quotes for construction activities

Project Budget Template

- The template has three tabs: Instructions, Project Revenue, and Project Expenses
- Be sure to complete BOTH the revenue and expense tabs
- The revenue and expenses tabs list common types of revenue and expenses. You are not expected to include something in every row
- Do not add or change the types of revenue and expense (i.e. column A)
- The total revenue and total expenses lines should automatically calculate

Project Revenue

- Committed Funding: Funding you already have or know you will get for this project
- Potential Funding: Funding you are trying to secure but has not been confirmed
  - Do not list your Thriving application in this column

Project Revenue

PROJECT REVENUE		
Revenue Type	**Committed Funding**	**Potential Funding**
Program Income	$ -	$ 1,500.00
Sales	$ -	$ -
Individual Contributions	$ 10,000.00	$ -
Events Income	$ 1,000.00	$ -
Grants	$ -	$ 20,000.00
Corporate Donations/Sponsorships	$ -	$ -
Endowments	$ -	$ -
Other Revenue	$ -	$ -
Total Revenue	$ 11,000.00	$ 21,500.00

Project Expenses

- Description: Briefly summarize what the expenses listed in the budget form will cover
- Request Amount: Total you are asking Thriving to cover in this grant
  - **The Total Expenses in the column (cell C11 should equal the request amount listed in your application).**
- Total Cost: How much the entire project will cost
  - If you are only asking Thriving to fund your project, the Total Cost column should match the Request Amount column
- Applicants are encouraged to include an indirect costs line item in their budgets

Project Expenses

Budget Item	Description	Request Amount	Total Cost
Staff Payroll and Benefits	Cost for 4 part-time youth ministry coordinators working for $25/hr for 10 hours a week over 10 weeks and 1 youth pastor working for $35/hr for 20 hours a week for 10 weeks	$ 1,000.00	$ 7,000.00
Staff Training and Development	Background checks and CPR training	$ 500.00	$ 500.00
Travel	Cost to rent a van for field trips	$ 500.00	$ 500.00
Contractor Services (including construction services)	Catering for final celebration	$ 750.00	$ 1,500.00
Marketing and Advertising		$ -	$ -
Materials and Supplies	Materials for youth projects; meals for 5 weeks of camp	$ 1,500.00	$ 2,000.00
Other (Specify in description)		$ -	$ -
Indirect Costs (up to 15% of the project budget)	These are costs that do not directly relate to the project but that the church must cover to have any programs. This may include administrative salaries, fundraising costs, mortgage/rent, utilities and maintenance etc.	$ 637.50	$ 1,725.00
Total Expenses		$ 4,887.50	$ 13,225.00

Submission Instructions

- Applications should be submitted using the online form found at https://baltimorepresbytery.org/thriving-grant-application/.
  - Cover letter and budget templates will also be found at this link
- Applications submitted after the **July 31st** deadline will not be considered
- Email melissa@firstpresbelair.org with any questions or concerns that emerge as you are preparing your application.
  - Please note that all questions about the content of the application (including the budget template) must be submitted by **July 24th**.

Project Reports

- Approximately 6 months after the grant funds are issued, awardees are required to submit a report describing:
  - How grant funds were used
  - What was achieved through the grant
- Thriving will send out additional information about completing the report approximately 1 month before it is due
- If the project is ongoing when the 6 month report is submitted, grantees will also need to submit a 1-year report to describe the rest of the project
- Grantees *must* submit this report to be eligible for future funding