

Proposed Mission Grant Projects

1. Chaplain Scholarships for Medical Mission Trips -----\$6,000

Submitted by the Office of International Mission, LCMS

LCMS Mercy Medical Teams bring urgently needed medical and spiritual care to underserved countries around the world. The Mercy Medical Teams greatly benefit from the presence of an LCMS pastor to serve as Team Chaplain. The pastors offer prayer and pastoral counseling to the patients and clients as well as providing encouragement and Christian support and fellowship to the partner churches. Pastors actively participate as part of the Medical Mercy Team. Financial considerations often prevent LCMS pastors from participating in Mercy Medical Teams. An LWML mission grant would help ease this financial burden for the pastors.

2. Financial Assistance for Food and Clothing Co-op-----\$10,000

Submitted by Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana

Many seminary students experience a financial burden. The Food Co-op currently supplies 80% to 90% of all seminary families' food and household needs each month at no cost to the students or their family. The seminary relies on donations from individuals, congregations, and organizations to supply these items. The mission grant is requested to purchase perishable food items, which will be given to the students and families in the Food and Clothing Co-op.

3. Support for Concordia Seminary's International Graduate School Students -----\$6,000

Submitted by Concordia Seminary, St Louis

Concordia Seminary respectfully seeks a mission grant in support of its international Graduate School students, of whom there currently are 47 from 21 different countries. The Seminary's overarching purpose in continuing to welcome these highly qualified global students is to further the carrying out of the Great Commission. When these students earn their advanced-level theological degrees and return to their home countries, they as seminary professors and leaders, will have key roles in continuing the spread of the Gospel message within many lands. Neither these global students or their home countries' church bodies have nearly enough resources to fund the cost of these students' advanced-level educations. Ongoing seminary funding is needed for these church leaders and teachers.

4. Hispanic Mission Worker Retreats-----\$10,000

Submitted by Nebraska District of Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod

According to the 2017 U.S. Census Bureau 103,000 Hispanic people live in the counties covered by Nebraska North LWML. The Nebraska District works with the Spanish-speaking workers in this mission field, to give them support, net-working, encouragement, and continuing education opportunities. The Nebraska District has planned quarterly Hispanic leadership meetings beginning in 2018. Grant funding for the Hispanic mission worker retreats will serve to encourage and refresh these workers, allowing them to return to the fertile mission fields of their communities with renewed energy, focus and support. Grant funds will provide mileage, meals, lodging, and speaker costs for these retreats.

5. Mission Central--Missionary Support-----\$10,000

Submitted by Mission Central, a Recognized Service Organization of the LCMS

Missionaries who are called and sent by the LCMS must find their own funding, as they prepare and travel to the missionary site. This includes such things as travel expenses, insurance costs, housing, education and training costs, and salary for the family. LCMS missionary teams who are supported include people who focus on planting churches, leadership formation or some type of locally initiated holistic services in a areas of health, agriculture, community development,

English-as-a-Foreign Language classes or partner support activities. This grant is requested for the current missionary need at the time it is given during the biennium.

6. Post-Seminary Applied Learning and Support (PALS) Curriculum Resources-----\$3,000

Submitted by: The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod

PALS is a collaborative effort of the synod and districts that regularly brings together groups of recent graduates of our seminaries throughout the first three years of their ministries.

PALS seeks to:

- Help pastors and wives make a successful transition from seminary life to parish ministry;
- Foster and enhance pastors' and wives' personal, spiritual, and vocational formation;
- Eliminate the sense of isolation that pastors and wives often experience in the transition from seminary life to parish ministry.

This grant would be used to provide curriculum resources at no cost to them or to their congregation. Each book would acknowledge LWML's support and encouragement for continuing education.

7. Seminary Education for New Pastors in South Sudan----- \$7,500

Submitted by: The Lutheran Heritage Foundation, A Recognized Service Organization of the LCMS

The growth of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in South Sudan/Sudan has been very exciting, but it's also come with a big challenge: training enough pastors to faithfully shepherd these congregations, to baptize new believers, and to bring Holy Communion for the forgiveness of sins. LWML Nebraska North has been a vital part of the seminary education for new ELCSS/SS pastors in the past, and now a new class needs funding. In January 2018, 30 seminarians will begin their pastoral training at CLIHM (Concordia Lutheran Institute for the Holy Ministry), the Lutheran seminary in South Sudan. CLIHM graduates will likely be LHF's future translators for Lutheran books in the Sudanese language. Because of the extreme poverty level of most South Sudan citizens (subsistence farmers), they are unable to pay for a seminary education. This grant will cover the room and board of 30 students for one course at the seminary.

8. Jesus Our Savior Lutheran Preschool Tuition Assistance-----\$10,000

Submitted by Jesus Our Savior Lutheran Preschool, a Recognized Service Organization of the LCMS

Jesus Our Savior Lutheran Preschool is located on the Winnebago Indian Reservation in northeast Nebraska. The 2017-2018 school year marked the 20th year of operation of this school. There were 14 preschoolers with Sheryl Tietz as their teacher. Sheryl teaches the academic and social skills to prepare the students for kindergarten. But most importantly, Sheryl teaches the children about the love of Jesus along with Pastor Ricky Jacob, a called missionary to Jesus Our Savior Lutheran Outreach. Statistics show that over 80% of the children on the Winnebago Reservation are living in poverty. This fact illustrates the challenge that families face when trying to pay tuition. This grant would enable Jesus Our Savior Lutheran Preschool to offer tuition assistance to these families.