

THANK 2007 OFFERING GRANT RECIPIENTS

The Creative Ministries Offering Committee met in Louisville, Kentucky, February 2007, to review 77 proposals and approve grants totaling \$983,194 from the 2006 Thank Offering of Presbyterian Women.

Projects must meet criteria established by the committee, including consistency with the mission concerns and policies of the PC(USA), a purpose that meets basic human needs, provides a form of aid that relates directly to the people being served and is a creative project less than three years old or a new direction for an existing program. The committee selects programs based on merit, regardless of geographic location. At least 40 percent of the Thank Offering funds go to health-related projects.

The Creative Ministries Offering Committee of Presbyterian Women is pleased to announce the 2007 Thank Offering grant recipients.

SYNOD OF ALASKA/NORTHWEST

Grace Clinic

Dental Expansion Project
Kennewick, Washington
\$28,225

Increase size of a nondenominational, faith-based, free medical clinic by adding two dental treatment rooms

Haller Lake Christian Health Clinic

Serving More Patients at HLCHC
Seattle, Washington
\$10,000

Provide quality, compassionate health care—primary medical, basic dental, professional counseling and spiritual care services—to people in North Seattle who are uninsured and have low incomes

SYNOD OF LAKES AND PRAIRIES

The Presbyterian Church of Cloquet

Mission Meals
Cloquet, Minnesota
\$4,014

Supply meals and social interaction to senior citizens

SYNOD OF LIVING WATERS

Southminster Child Care Center

Playground Renovation
Nashville, Tennessee
\$25,000

Renovate the church playground that provides an effective play area for the child care center, the church and the children of the neighborhood

Presbyterian AIDS Network (PAN)

HIV/AIDS Seminary Project
Louisville, Kentucky
\$16,600

Share 2004 survey findings with meeting participants, generate ideas for best practices, ascertain gaps in practices and resources, and provide for resource development

SYNOD OF MID-AMERICA

Presbyterian Children's Services, Inc.

Mentoring Children of Incarcerated Mothers and Fathers
St. Louis, Missouri
\$30,000

One-on-one mentoring of children who have one or more parent(s) who are incarcerated or recently released from prison. Help link families to resources and services in the community

SYNOD OF THE MID-ATLANTIC

Meeting Ground, Inc.

Aftercare Program for Children, Youth and Families
Elkton, Maryland

\$30,000

Provide support services, follow-up care and activities for families experiencing homelessness

Regional AIDS Interfaith Network (RAIN)

African American Pastor's Institute
Charlotte, North Carolina
\$16,850

Provide compassionate care, education and leadership development for people affected by AIDS

SYNOD OF THE NORTHEAST

Forked River Presbyterian Church

LEAP—Learn English at Preschool
Forked River, New Jersey
\$29,800

Provide start-up funds for a formal volunteer resource. Assist local immigrant families in learning English

Jericho Road Ministries

Women Mentoring Women
Transformational Health Pilot Program
Buffalo, New York
\$29,050

Hire a medical case manager to develop and implement programs that assist women as they navigate confusing medical systems, and enhance access to health care services and resources

SYNOD OF THE PACIFIC

Opening Doors, Inc.

Sacramento Afghan Women's Health Outreach
Sacramento, California
\$30,000

Enable Afghan women to receive health care they are hesitant to seek because of cultural and language barriers

SYNOD OF PUERTO RICO

Puerto Rico Council of Churches

Faith in Action

San Juan, Puerto Rico

\$30,000

In a hospital setting, support the needs of 100 elderly adults and 400 children who have chronic health conditions

SYNOD OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS

Rainbow Bridge

Youth and Elders Program

Denver, Colorado

\$5,000

Provide training for youth volunteers who participate in youth/elder partnerships

SYNOD OF THE SOUTH ATLANTIC

Casa de Amistad of Northeast

Georgia Presbytery

Youth and Family Education Project

Athens, Georgia

\$26,374

Promote the well-being of the underserved Hispanic population through education, assistance with transportation, child care, 4-H scholarships and volunteer training

SYNOD OF THE SOUTHWEST

Cook School for Christian Leadership

Family Violence Intervention

Leaders Program

Tempe, Arizona

\$13,000

Educate Native Americans to become Family Violence Intervention Leaders who will serve on reservations and in the Phoenix metropolitan area

SYNOD OF THE SUN

Saline County Safe Haven, Inc.

Expansion of domestic violence shelter

Benton, Arkansas

\$30,000

Increase the size and improve the condition of the current shelter by adding two bedrooms and updating the laundry room and the heating/air conditioning system

INTERNATIONAL

Igreja Evangelical Congregacional do Brasil da Linha

Communication Access to Children and Elderly

Santa Rosa, Brazil

\$2,200

Purchase three computers and three printers to enable those isolated from the world to learn to communicate,

socialize and share experiences. Writing and reading skills will be improved.

Ethiopian Evangelical Church

Mekane Yesus—Gender Office

Campaign to reduce harmful traditional practices that violate Ethiopian women

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

\$28,090

Develop training sessions and produce educational materials to end the practice of female genital mutilation in Ethiopia

China Connection

Leprosy/China

Hunan Province, China

\$20,000

Train doctors to alert villagers to the seriousness of leprosy and other contagious diseases. Early detection helps prevent loss of sight and limb(s)

The Emayian Development Program

Kipeto Maasai Women Water Project

Kiserian, Kenya

\$30,000

Provide a permanent source of safe, clean drinking water, which will improve economic and social conditions, and eradicate water-borne diseases

Miracles in Action, Inc.

Ciudad de los Niños Automotive

Training Facility

Lima, Peru

\$14,000

Provide vocational training for youth who have been abandoned, to break the cycle of poverty and offer help for the future

Kizungu Women Empowerment Initiatives Association

Poultry production project for income generation and reduction of domestic violence

Kasese, Uganda

\$7,995

Purchase chicks as layers and boilers, construct a brooder and procure vaccine storage equipment

Katuuso Self Help Association

Local chicken upgrading and multiplication project

Kampala, Uganda

\$13,495

Purchase the High Hatch Incubator, a feed mill, chickens, animal feed, feeders and a water trough

Contact and Resource Center

Piece-Makers

Beirut, Lebanon

\$30,000

Enhance the roles of women with disabilities by providing training, equipment and raw materials for sewing workshops

Unity Is Strength Women Association

Maize mill for poverty, hunger and malnutrition reduction

Kilembe, Uganda

\$13,355

Purchase maize mill, feed mill and mixer, and maize thresher to process crops and generate income for rural women

Together in Development Women Association

Beekeeping for domestic poverty women's association in Kibisire

Kampala, Uganda

\$16,459

Establish apiary demonstration project and purchase beekeeping equipment for 100 women, enabling them to produce honey and wax for candles and develop a marketing system

Chethana Network

Women's Alternative Livelihood Interventions

Bangalore, India

\$30,000

Educate women's groups in cooperative enterprises, and help them develop skills and marketing techniques for organic farming and handloomed textiles

Irma Pfeiffer Bweya High School

Irma Computer Skills Development Center Project

Kisubi, Uganda

\$14,023

Establish computer skills development center with the purchase of 30 computers to be used by 150 girls during the week and 30 women from the community on Saturdays

Muyambe Clean Water Project

Mengo, Uganda

\$19,400

Purchase water installation equipment to provide clean water to inhabitants of slum areas of Muyambe

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Africa Office

African and PC(USA) Presbyterian Women's Meeting 2007
Kenya

\$30,000

Provide scholarships for 17 African women, enabling them to attend this meeting

Kirinda Water Project

Kampala, Uganda

\$23,808

Install a permanent, safe and clean drinking water system to serve the slum area inhabitants of Kirinda

Babuyirana Women Group Ministries

Mushroom growing for poverty and hunger reduction

Wandegeya, Uganda

\$14,052

Help women living in rural areas reduce poverty and hunger by growing and marketing mushrooms

Ayomso Community Project

Ayomso Water/Boreholes Project

Goaso, Ghana

\$20,009

Provide hand pumps to all community boreholes for a constant supply of clean water

Masooli Rural Women Association

Improvement and multiplication of exotic land race and large white Sussex pigs

Kasangati, Uganda

\$15,170

Help women living in rural areas eradicate poverty by breeding, distributing and marketing pigs

Kitoro Self Help Association

Joint efforts to fight malnutrition, hunger and poverty among refugee settlements

Masaka, Uganda

\$25,111

Provide garden tools, farm implements and seeds to displaced persons who have been allocated land but cannot afford farm equipment or seeds

Mulwana Kalanzi Project

Clean Drinking Water for All

Entebbe, Uganda

\$17,060

Provide safe and clean drinking water for the community, including an orphanage in the Rakai District slum area

Kyeyune Ssenkubuge Project

Provide basic farming implements and seeds to fight hunger

Abaita Ababiri, Uganda

\$24,327

Train displaced persons in modern farming techniques

Homeless Widows Palm Kernel and Coconut Oil Extraction

Alleviating hunger and poverty

Breku, Ghana

\$16,000

Alleviate hunger and poverty by selling oil from palm and coconut trees in a community-based self-help group consisting of 50 widows

Kasana Tadeo

Kasana Tadeo Clean Water Project

Mengo, Uganda

\$16,175

Provide safe drinking water to all people of the Kasana slum community

Afrika Belt Presbyterian Church

Hatchery project to reduce poverty, malnutrition and hunger

Kisubi, Uganda

\$13,724

Reduce hunger by establishing a hatchery in the slum community of Nakaseke

Department of Women and Families, Presbyterian Church of Kinshasa

Request for vehicle

Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo

\$30,000

Purchase a vehicle to visit those with HIV/AIDS and provide transportation to clinics and hospitals

Community Development Society

Development of rural poor women through bamboo basket-making program

Andhra Pradesh, India

\$2,756

Improve the living standards of women living in rural areas by teaching them to produce and market bamboo baskets

Childhope Asia Philippines

Tahana Sta. Luisa Crisis Intervention Center for Street Girls and Sexually-exploited Girls in Metro Manila

Quezon City, Philippines

\$17,000

Provide consultation and treatment by psychiatrists, psychologists, physicians and dentists

Church of Central Africa, Presbyterian—Synod of Zambia HIV/AIDS Program

Mtendere CCAP Daycare Centre

Lusaka, Zambia

\$23,060

Complete construction of two classrooms and two additional rooms, and furnish all four rooms

Sarojini Mahili Mandili

Self-employment for adolescent girls through mushroom growing

Andhra Pradesh, India

\$7,992

Purchase mushroom cultivation houses and raw materials, such as wheat, paddy straw, seeds and bags

Associate for Missions Youth Project

Construction of TBA Training Centre/Maternity Block

Legon-Accra, Ghana

\$15,870

Provide raw materials for construction of a maternity block and training center for traditional birth attendants to serve the community

Prachakittisuk Church

Prachakittisuk Church Orphanage

Mae Sai, Thailand

\$30,000

Construct a second building to house girls and boys in separate facilities, per government regulations

Vanda Presbyterian Church

Vanda Projects

Kampala, Uganda

\$18,900

Provide materials to excavate and construct 10 pit latrines to improve the basic health of the community

Interchurch Medical Assistance, Inc.

Democratic Republic of Congo

Malawi

\$29,250

Provide postage for overseas shipment of 70-pound boxes of medical supplies

To learn more about the Thank Offering, contact the PW associate for special offerings, Cindy Goodman, 888/728-7228, ext. 5387, cgoodman@ctr.pcusa.org.

THANK OFFERING

DEDICATION SERVICE

BY SALLIE CUARESMA

OPENING WORDS

One: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us worship God.

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: This is the day that the LORD has made;

All: Let us rejoice and be glad in it (Ps. 118:24).

One: Give thanks to the LORD, for [God's] is good;

All: [God's] steadfast love endures forever (1 Chron. 16:34).

One: O sing to the LORD a new song;

All: Sing to the LORD, all the earth (Ps. 96:1).

One: Sing, and give praise to God's name;

All: Tell the glad news of salvation from day to day (Ps. 96:2).

One: Praise the Lord!

All: The Lord's name be praised.

HYMN SUGGESTIONS

PH# 332 "Live into Hope"

PH# 375 "Lord of All Good"

SCRIPTURE

"[God] who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God" (2 Cor. 9:10–12, NRSV).

MEDITATION

God equips us in many ways for special purposes. Reality shows on television have become popular over the past few years. Our reality is we live in a world, and are aware of situations, where life is not a bed of roses.

God has called us into being as a means of addressing the needs of those

afflicted by abuse, violence, disease, unemployment, lack of education or employable skills, social isolation and other overwhelming challenges. Those most vulnerable are children, particularly orphans, women, especially widows, youth and those who are elderly.

It has been said, "If only . . ." and our response is, "Where there is a will, there is a way." Finding a way to supply the seeds of hope to those so challenged is our mission. Our challenge becomes that of discerning the best way to address the needs presented to us as we seek to be good stewards of the resources God has given us.

On this journey of faith, offering a cup of cool water is hospitality welcomed in any community. In communities where there is a lack of good, clean and fresh water, our task is identifying the need, finding the source of good water and making it accessible.

Freedom from fear and uncertainty is a welcome transition for anyone seeking shelter from abuse and violence, especially children and women. Sowing seeds of kindness will offer them opportunities to develop self-reliance and positive coping skills.

Where there is a lack of education, reach out and teach others to eradicate illiteracy, in buildings conducive for learning. Create opportunities to provide employable skills, which provide others the ability to generate income and sustain life through a living wage.

Have you ever considered what kind of difference you can make in the life of another person? A kind word, a warm embrace or just a smile can create a sense of well-being. These gestures can break down the walls of isolation for many a person, especially those living alone. It's a ministry that can be risky, but well worth it.

When we meet the challenges that exist in the lives of others, we use our gifts of talent and treasure as expressions of thanks to God. Thanks be to God for the opportunity to serve and be served.

OFFERING

Generosity models God's will. Give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver—freely given; freely received. Our willingness to give is seen as an expression and confession of faith. In gratitude and celebration of these gifts, let us present to God our Thank Offering.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Good, gracious and loving God, thank you for the gift of life, love and the sustenance to be a living witness of your love. Accept these gifts we offer and bless them in ways that will supply the needs of your people to overflowing.

HYMN SUGGESTIONS

PH# 343 "Called as Partners in Christ's Service"

PH#389 "O Jesus, I Have Promised"

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

One: Look at your hands; see the touch and the tenderness—

All: God's own for the world.

One: Look at your heart; see the love and the passion—

All: God's own for the world.

One: Look at your feet; see the path and the direction—

All: God's own for the world.

One: Look at the cross; see God's Son, our Savior—

All: God's own for the world.

One: This is God's world.

All: And we will serve God in it. Amen.

One: Now in the fellowship of God's Spirit, go in peace, savoring God's love and sharing the good news of God's love and grace.

Sallie Cuaresma is associate for Native American Congregational Enhancement, Racial Ethnic Ministries, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).