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TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES GRANT APPLICATION FOR 2023/24 CYCLE

DESCRIPTION

Demonstrating the love of Christ, Union Gospel Mission is determined to transform communities by overcoming poverty, homelessness, and addiction one life at a time. This is a lofty goal far beyond the capability of any organization! Yet since it is integral to the Way of Jesus as well as to a flourishing democracy, this is a calling for every Christian and congregation, every citizen and institution. UGM's Church Relations department exists to help congregations live into this high calling in collaboration with each other and with others of good will.

The 2023 Transforming Communities Grants (TCG) follow upon the success of previous years' Communities of Care grants & TCG. Congregations are increasingly becoming aware of new needs arising in their community; they're seeking how to answer God's call - and the invitation of nearby community-based organizations and taskforces - to serve in such a time as this. The 2022 Communities of Care grants helped fourteen churches do just that.

For 2023, UGM is delighted to be able to provide financial and technical support to additional congregations that partner in our Transforming Communities Grant program - so they can stabilize, grow, and replicate.

GRANTING STRATEGY

For the 2023 grant cycle, we anticipate partnering with up to an additional 22 congregations across the lower mainland, with a priority on underserved neighbourhoods, and a desire to support both denominational and ethnic diversity.

Recognizing the fact that congregations are at different stages of missional preparedness and capacity, we are offering that following grant categories:

Micro Grants:

- Select amount of micro grants of **up to \$1,000 each**

Capacity Grants:

- Select amount grants of between **\$1000 - \$10,000**
- Select amount of grants between **\$10,000 - \$20,000**



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Micro grants will typically be for one-time expenditures such as activities for the regional Homeless Action Week, guest speakers, education/training, professional development courses, equipment purchases, etc. Capacity grants are intended to significantly stabilize and augment existing initiatives or launch new ones.

Proponents seeking more than \$10,000 should contact UGM's Church Relations team for a discussion prior to applying.

Grants over \$1,000 are not intended to be the sole funding mechanism for the programs receiving support; applicants will need to show how their church and/or other funders are contributing. All successful applicants will be required to submit a written report on outputs and outcomes (defined in the Application) as well as lessons learned.

Beyond financial support, UGM is keen to help grant recipients with program development and organizational capacity issues such as policies and processes, COVID protocols, meal planning/prep, volunteer management and communication, fundraising stewardship planning, networking and coordinating with nearby service providers, and integrating the [Communities of Care workshops](#) with the local congregational ministry visions.

Moreover, we strongly encourage (but won't require) grant recipients to form enduring collegial connections with UGM and one another, for mutual support and client care. To this end, we are hosting a series of workshops, roundtable discussions, and a wrap-up celebration. Successful applicants of capacity grants are expected to participate in the [Communities of Care workshops](#).

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

For the 2023 granting round, eligible programs must:

- Be run by a Christian church that is a registered Canadian charity, or by a closely affiliated daughter charity of a local church
- Be operating in Metro Vancouver or the Fraser Valley
- Be serving one or more vulnerable populations who do not have enough access to needed services such as, but not limited to,
 - o meals (takeout or sit down)
 - o food hampers
 - o shelter and housing
 - o outreach and advocacy
 - o support services (laundry, clothing, hygiene, etc.) and life skills
 - o other supportive practices that address social isolation or capacity building
- Be willing to work with UGM's Church Relations team to produce a Case for Support and a basic stewardship plan for sustaining the program's ongoing needs.

Churches and organizations that received a grant through UGM in 2022 are not eligible for the 2023 cycle. On a case by case basis, those that received a grant in 2021 may be eligible if funding is for a new program or service.

Eligible expenditures include but are not limited to:

- Food, materials, and supplies
- Equipment purchase/rental/lease/maintenance
- Costs of program space: lease/rent, utilities, janitorial and sanitation
- Renovations to create or improve program space
- Wages and benefits
- Training and professional development
- Guest speakers
- Printing and communication
- Administration costs
- Professional fees
- Disability support for staff

TIMELINE

The timeline for the 2023 grant cycle is as follows:

March 1st	Call for Proposals announced.
May 15th	All application materials are due by 5 pm.
June 9th	Successful applicants are notified.
July 5th	Cheques for initial grant installment (80%) are sent. 100% for micro grants.
June - December	Consult with UGM re: program/organizational development, if desired.
October	Individualized fundraising and sustainability planning session with UGM.
January 15th, 2024	One-page interim report due.
April 2024	Celebration and story-telling event for 2023 recipients and 2024 applicants
May 15th, 2024	Final report due by 5 pm.
May 29th, 2024	Cheques for last grant instalment (20%) are sent.

The UGM Church Relations team is available to advise and assist you to prepare your application. Applications will be reviewed and grants awarded by a committee consisting of the Church Relations team and several external Christian non-profit representatives.

UGM's Church Relations team (churchrelations@ugm.ca) invites your questions and stands ready to assist you in preparing your proposal.

DEADLINE

All application materials must be received by 5 pm, May 15, 2023.

Email: churchrelations@ugm.ca

or

Mail: Transforming Communities Grant 2023
c/o Church Relations
Union Gospel Mission
601 East Hastings St, Vancouver, BC, V6A 1J7



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SECTION 1: CONGREGATION INFORMATION

Congregation Name	
Mailing Address	Street: City: Postal Code:
Congregational Address (if different than Mailing)	Street: City: Postal Code:
Website	
Registered Charity #	
Applying in collaboration with other organizations to deliver the program?	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, names of partners and roles (max 200 words):

SECTION 2: LEAD APPLICANT INFORMATION

Who should we contact with any questions about your application?

Your Name	
Role in Your Congregation	
Email	
Phone Number	

SECTION 3: PROGRAM INFORMATION

Program Name	
Program Summary (one sentence)	

Which statement best describes the impact this grant would have on your program?

- This grant primarily would help to *stabilize* an existing project.
- This grant primarily would help to *expand the reach* of an existing project.
- This grant primarily would help to *launch a new* project.

Program Description

Describe the population(s) you aim to assist.

What opportunity or problem are you addressing?

What are the program *outputs* (e.g., # of meals, client visits, etc., in a week or month)?

What *outcomes* are you aiming for - what will qualitatively change in your neighbourhood, your church, and the people who access your services? (These are never numbers.)

What will indicate you are achieving your desired outcomes - how will you gauge success?

Program Operations (if known at this stage)

Days:	
Times:	
Other important information:	

Have you engaged with other groups/organizations in designing or delivering your program?

How do people accessing your program have a formal role in helping you deliver your program and making decisions about it/them?

As a *congregation* participating in the Transforming Communities Grant (TCG), how does your program fit into the practices and rhythms of your whole church? How does it bring guests/clients into mutuality with parishioners?

Are there organizational capacity or technical issues you would like the UGM team to assist with?

- No, thank you
- Neighbourhood analysis and assessment
- Community and/or service provider networking
- Recommended resources for staff and volunteers
- Program development or re-design
- Program evaluation
- Volunteer recruitment and retention
- Policy development
- Fundraising basics
- Other: _____

If there is any supplementary material you would like reviewers to see, please attach it when emailing this application form.

SECTION 4: GRANT REQUEST AND PROJECT BUDGET

Amount requested: <input type="checkbox"/> Micro grant up to \$1,000 (Approximately 10 grants) <input type="checkbox"/> Capacity grant up to \$10,000 (Approximately 5 grants) <input type="checkbox"/> Capacity grant up to \$20,000 (Approximately 2 grants)	\$
Will your program proceed if you are awarded a smaller grant?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Project Budget - See Excel template

- Please ensure that your budget accounts for the full amount of the grant that you have requested.
- All budget items must be program related and **must be incurred within 12 months** of being awarded the grant.
- Eligible expenditures include, but aren't necessarily limited to:
 - Food, materials, and supplies
 - Equipment purchase/rental/lease/maintenance
 - Renovations to create or improve program space
 - Costs of *program* space: lease/rent, utilities, janitorial and sanitation
 - Wages and benefits
 - Program-specific training and professional development
 - Printing and communication
 - Administration costs
 - Professional fees
 - Disability support for staff
- Ineligible expenditures include:
 - Expenses of your congregation beyond the program
 - Purchase of real property (land or buildings)
 - Activities that take place outside of the Metro Vancouver or the Fraser Valley
- Note that funds received through this program cannot be used to generate a profit or an income in excess of program expenses for your congregation.

SECTION 5: AUTHORIZATION & DECLARATIONS

By completing this section, the applicant confirms that the Recipient Congregation is a registered Canadian charity and is supportive of this grant application.

- In checking this box, you declare your interest in submitting this application for consideration under the Transforming Communities Grants. You confirm that the information provided in this application is accurate, and that it may be shared with Union Gospel Mission and external members of the Review Committee.

- In checking this box, you confirm that this program and budget as submitted have been approved (at least provisionally upon getting this grant) by your congregation's Council or by whichever means is required by your bylaws.

- In checking this box, you confirm that you have appropriate signing authority to submit this proposal on behalf of your congregation.

Signature

Title

Date

Printed Name