

S.C. Conference Ethnic Local Church Concerns (SCELCC)



Funding Request Application 2017-19

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NOTE

1. Priority will be given to **new** programs or **pilot** projects.
2. Multi year projects that are funded will receive funds for only one year at a time.
3. Funds are not provided for salaries or buildings.

South Carolina Conference Committee on Ethnic Local Church Concerns (ELCC)

“Serving God by serving racial-ethnic ministries”

Rev. Carleathea M. Benson, Chairperson

Greetings Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ,

“Serving God by Serving Racial-Ethnic Ministries” in the South Carolina Annual Conference is the mandate of the S.C. Conference Committee on Ethnic Local Church Concerns (ELCC). We are guided by the scriptures and the Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church. The scriptures tell us “just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve” (Matt.20:28ab), we are also to be in service as the emulate Christ.

It was the Southeastern Jurisdiction Ethnic Local Church Committee in 2000 that created the logo and established the mandate that ELCC should *TEACH (Train, Educate, Affirm, Communicate and Heal)* within our racial-ethnic congregations. As ELCC moves forward into the 21st century, we seek to live into *“Strengthening the Black Church for the 21st Century,”* a General Church initiative, and empowering all racial-ethnic congregations through *TEACHing*.

Our work has only just begun, but we are pleased to have completed our new and simplified ELCC Grant Application Process. Everything has been streamlined to better meet your needs, while still allowing for the collection of vital data to meet our needs so we can offer more effective avenues by which you can *TEACH* in your congregations and communities.

Although ELCC is here for all racial-ethnic churches, it’s the desire of the SCC Committee on ELCC to assist those churches that cannot afford to send their laity (children, youth, young adults, adults and older adults) and clergy to leadership development training, educational events, special activities/programs, etc. To this end, we will review grant and scholarship applications looking for *first-time attendees and first-time church participation*.

Finally, accountability is important. With grants and scholarships awarded, we will require timely reports and, in some cases, the expectation will be that information learned at a training event will be shared at a district-wide event within a 12-month timeframe. We appreciate your support and encouragement of the work of the South Carolina Conference Committee on Ethnic Local Church Concerns (ELCC).

Yours in Christ Jesus,

Carleathea

Pastor Carleathea M. Benson
SC ELCC Committee Chairperson

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ELCC Grant Program – Process Overview



Applicants should read all documents associated with the ELCC grant program before submitting an application:

- *This ELCC grant program overview with FAQs*
- *The grant application documents - Part I and Part II*
- *The grant project report documents - Part I and Part II*

I. Application

Application deadlines: First cycle, March 31; second cycle, Sept. 30. Applications must be received by the South Carolina Conference offices by the stated deadline in order for the application to be reviewed. Applications can be sent via mail, fax or email with scanned attachments.

Application Parts I and II must be received in order for the grant application to be processed. The applications should be sent as follows:

Application Part I and II forms	Send to:
Email with scanned attachments	Doris Seals at dseals@umcsc.org
Fax	803-399-9956 - Attention: Doris Seals
Mail	Office of Connectional Ministries Attn: ELCC Grant Processing 4908 Colonial Drive, Suite 101 Columbia, SC 29203

II. Grant Awards

ELCC grants **will not** be approved for salaries or building (brick and mortar) projects. Applicants will be notified about two weeks after the application deadlines whether they will be awarded a grant. A check will be sent to the Project/Ministry to the address on the application. The project director will work with the Office of Connectional Ministries through Doris Seals on check disbursement details. Checks cannot be made out to individuals. All grant awardees must track the spending of funds.

III. Grant Project Reporting

Upon completion of the project or after all ELCC Grant funds have been spent, grantees are to evaluate the project and submit a report. See the ELCC Grant report documents - Part I and Part II. Reports should be sent to the same address as the original application. The report is due 14 days after completion of your project as defined in your initial timeline or 14 days after all grant monies have been spent, whichever is earlier.

FAQs Regarding the ELCC Grant Program



1. **What is the ELCC?** The ELCC is the Committee on Ethnic Local Church Concerns. It exists to provide resources and promote training for leaders, clergy and lay, for the mission of the local church in the areas of ethnic local church concerns. The goal is to create a shared vision, improve the effectiveness of ministry, and participate in the development of practical ways of living out the faith in the church and the world.
2. **What is the purpose of the ELCC Grant Program?** The purpose of the grant program is to make funds available to individuals and churches from among our ethnic local churches to strengthen congregations and empower people to do God’s work. The focus of the program is on our smaller churches that lack financial resources. It is our hope that seed funds from these grants can be leveraged by connections with other resources, thereby equipping people and churches to open channels of God’s grace in places in need of hope.
3. **What is the process for applying for a grant?**
 - The grant application forms are available at umcsc.org/elcc.
 - The application forms (Part I and Part II) must be completed before the deadline date and sent to Doris Seals – dseals@umcsc.org (either scanned and emailed, faxed, or mailed hard copies) and received prior to the application deadline.
4. **What are some examples of programs that have received grants in the past and/or programs that you anticipate supporting in the future?**
 - Disciple classes
 - Family issues: (single parent, teaching dads to be dads, & domestic violence)
 - Substance abuse
 - Hunger
 - Poverty
5. **How do I improve my chances of being awarded a grant?**
 - a. Describe very clearly the need that your program is addressing. Explain your vision of how your program will address the need.
 - b. Establish clear and measurable goals and objectives for the program. Explain the methods that will be used. Establish a timeline.
 - c. Show how you will leverage the seed money from the ELCC grant to make it go further than we would imagine. Think about how Jesus used the five loaves and two fish to feed the multitudes. What co-commitment is the local church making? (Consider gifts of time, talent and service.) What other resources can you tap into?
 - d. Develop a detailed budget for the program showing all sources of funds and expenses by line item.
 - e. Commit to “sharing the light” by communicating with others the good and hopeful things that God is doing through your program. Consider photos, stories, videos and newsletter articles, for example.
 - f. If the grant is intended to seed an ongoing program, describe how it will become self-funding.

ELCC Grant Program - Grant Application: Part I

1. Project¹ name: _____
2. Church name: _____ 2a. District: _____
3. Name of applicant: _____
4. Address: _____
City/State/ZIP Code: _____
5. Phone (with area code): _____
6. Email address of applicant: _____
7. Project director's name²: _____ () Male () Female
8. Project director's daytime phone (with area code): _____
9. Project director's email address: _____
10. Description of group applying: a. Asian _____ b. Hispanic/Latino _____ c. Native American _____
d. African-American _____ e. Multi-ethnic _____
f. Other (describe) _____
11. Description of group being served through this project: a. Asian _____ b. Hispanic/Latino _____ c. Native American _____
d. African-American _____ e. Multi-ethnic _____
f. Other (describe) _____
12. Type of project: a. Community outreach _____ b. Christian education _____ c. Child/youth ministries _____
d. Hunger _____ e. Poverty _____ f. Substance abuse _____ g. Family issues _____
h. Other (describe) _____
13. Sponsoring church data
Year organized: _____ Membership: _____ Number of active families: _____
Average worship attendance: _____ Previous year: _____ Current year: _____
Average Sunday School attendance: _____ Previous year: _____ Current year: _____
Apportionment percentage paid: _____ Previous year: _____ Current year: _____
b. Pastor _____
c. District superintendent _____

¹The word "project" in this application refers to the ministry, project or program being undertaken.

² The project director must be laity.

14. Signatures

Project director – I have read this application in its entirety (Parts I and II), and I intend to direct this project, including the use of funds as reflected in this application.

_____ Date
Project director’s signature

Pastor or UMC contact – I agree that the need described in this application is real, and I believe that the project described in this application (Parts I and II) should be funded.

_____ Date
Pastor’s or UMC contact’s signature

District superintendent – I am aware of this project and support this ministry.

_____ Date
District superintendent’s signature

FOR ELCC FUNDING COMMITTEE

The ELCC Funding Committee recommends:

_____ after review of this grant application (Parts I and II) that it **MEETS** the requirements of the ELCC grant process. We agree to fund this project with ELCC grant funds.

Approved funding amount: \$ _____

Approved by: _____ Approval date: _____

The ELCC Funding Committee recommends:

_____ after review of this grant application (Parts I and II) that it **DOES NOT MEET** the requirements of the ELCC grant process.

Denied by: _____ Denial date: _____

Reason for denial: _____

ELCC Grants Program - Grant Application – Part II



On a separate sheet, please answer the following questions:

1. What is/are the need(s)/issue(s) you want to address?
2. Briefly describe your project and how it will meet the need(s) or address the issue(s). (Regarding projects involving children or youth: All personnel involved in the project must 18 years old or older and must have had a national background check performed. Attach documentation.)
3. Describe the end-state you would like to achieve after the project is completed. What do you hope will be different?
4. What will the funds be used for? (ELCC grant money is not to be used for salaries or buildings - brick and mortar.) Attach a budget for the project. Include all other sources of funding. Provide a detailed expense breakdown.
5. What are the goals and objectives you are trying to accomplish through this project? List S.M.A.R.T. goals for the project (specific, measurable, attainable, relevant and timely).
6. If the project is expected to be ongoing, how will it be maintained once the grant expires?
7. How will the local church support this project? Consider financial support as well as gifts of time, talent and service.
8. What other resources can you connect with this effort to provide leverage and maximize the impact of the project?
9. How will you communicate the good things that God allows to happen through this project with your brothers and sisters in the SC UMC? Consider stories, photographs, videos, newsletter articles, etc.
10. Who will make up the leadership team for this project? (The project leader must be laity, and a minimum of three people must be included on the team. At least one person on the leadership team must be from the group being serviced through this project.) For each of the leadership team members, list name, address, racial/ethnic group, and the skills they bring to the project.

I acknowledge I have read and understand the terms of the SC ELCC grant.

Project director's signature

Project director's name (printed)

Date

Revised May 2019