



DISTRICT MISSION GRANT PROPOSAL HOW TO GET STARTED

Introduction

From the first grant in 1946 - \$6,000 for Trinity Lutheran Church, Indio, CA - over two million dollars have been received to fund LWML Pacific Southwest District Mission Grants. Over 300 mission grants became realities because one LWML member or one LWML group learned of a mission need and made the effort to do something special - to submit a mission grant proposal to fund the project.

Each woman, each LWML group, is blessed to be a blessing to others by continuing to be aware of the close-at-hand mission needs in her community and writing mission grant proposals for them, as well as remembering LWML and district mission grants in prayer, and supporting them through Mite Box offerings.

The purpose of this document is to answer questions about PSD mission grants and the mission grants selection process, as well as assisting with developing a grant proposal, and offering helps and suggestions for strengthening Mite Box offerings.

What Is the Important Ingredient in the District Mission Grants Program?

Faith ...

... that our constant prayers for grants are heard.

... that the Lord will bless our offerings.

We give thee but Thine own, Whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone,
A trust, O Lord, from Thee.
(LSB 781)

How Can I Become More Aware of Mission Grant Opportunities?

- Study a mission area of the Pacific Southwest District as part of your personal devotional and prayer time.
- Look for unique ministry projects in your community, particularly an activity, service, or need in your community that may be different from those in other communities. Look for ministries to ethnic or immigrant groups, the homeless or neglected, the physically or mentally disabled, women or children, or the aged.

- Become involved in your community's special programs.
- Attend zone events and rallies, district conventions, and mission fairs. Invite mission speakers to meetings and be alert to their specific needs.
- Review the LWML Pacific Southwest District MITE BOX PROJECTS COMPLETED, a listing of approved mission grant proposals that were selected at previous Pacific Southwest District conventions. Go to www.psdlwml.org then Mission Grants and then LWML Pacific Southwest District MITE BOX PROJECTS COMPLETED. There are other resources as well that you can explore on past mission grants.

Other Resources Include:

- PSD-LCMS webpage: <https://www.psd-lcms.org/ministries>
- Directory for Recognized Service Organizations: www.lcms.org/how-we-serve/mercy/recognized-service-organizations

Who May Submit a Mission Grant Proposal?

Any LWML member, unit (group or zone), church or the district may submit a grant proposal for consideration by the Mission Grants Selection Committee.

The organizations and recipients being considered for an LWML Mission Grant must be sponsored by one of the above listed people who will act as the official submitter of the mission grant proposal.

How Do I Research an Idea for A Grant Proposal?

You may want to begin with these questions:

- Has this idea for a mission grant proposal for this need been given my prayerful consideration?
- What is the specific and current need?
- Is this an ongoing ministry?
- Does this ministry project have a documented and demonstrated record of service to its community?
- Can this specific need be met by my church group, zone, or district?
- Will meeting this need include sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ?
- Does this idea model the LWML standard of good mite stewardship?
- Does this idea reflect the vision and mission priorities of The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod?

How Can I Get More Help with Researching a Mission Grant Idea?

When you have identified a mission grant opportunity and researched the idea, contact and speak to key people involved with this program or activity. Document who you talk with and the dates.

Help from the following individuals will also be valuable toward a decision to make a mission grant proposal:

- PSD District Pastoral Counselor; pastortimcplc@gmail.com
- LWML PSD District President; president@psdlwml.org
- LWML Vice President of Gospel Outreach; gmajen61@gmail.com

What Are the Criteria for a Mission Grant Proposal?

The Mission Grants Selection Committee will note whether:

- The grant is mission in emphasis and will share the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
- There is a governing unit, such as a partner church, LCMS district, or Recognized Service Organization (RSO) to which the ministry project regularly reports.
- The ministry has provided a financial statement or budget as part of the mission grant proposal.
- The ministry will be able to implement the project when funds are disbursed within the biennium in which they were voted upon or the one following.
- The ministry is ongoing in nature, with assurance of continuing after the grant monies have been expended.

How Do I Evaluate My Mission Grant Proposal Idea?

Put the idea to the following test, reviewing whether the mission project:

- Is mission-focused in its overall emphasis.
- Offers the ministry of the Word.
- Reflects the vision and mission priorities of the LCMS.
- Aligns with LCMS strategic objectives and operational plans.

Before Submitting a Mission Grant Proposal to LWML PSD:

When you're ready to write your proposal go to the "Guidelines for Submitting a PSD Mission Grant Proposal" available on the website. www.psdlwml.org Click on Mission Grants and then Mission Grant Application and Guidelines. **Submit your grant electronically to the LWML PSD by August 1, to receive feedback information on your grant proposal.**

*This document was adapted from the LWML National document **Mission Grant Proposal How to Get Started**, Revised April 2020.*