

United Methodist Church
Office of the District Superintendent
1100 Goodman Street South
Rochester, New York 14620- 2530
Tel: 585.340.9525



***Bishop Violet L Fisher's
Fund for Children and the Poor
Western New York Conference United Methodist Church***

Fund Advance Number: 9043 WNY

Grant Application Form

In 1996, the Council of Bishops called upon The United Methodist Church to reshape its life in response to the crisis among children and the impoverished and in faithfulness to Jesus Christ. In the *2001 Biblical and Theological Foundations* document sent to every United Methodist congregation, the Bishops outlined goals for their Initiative on Children and Poverty (BICAP) for 2001- 2004:

- A. *To reshape The United Methodist Church in response to the God who is among "the least of these".*
- *To provide resources for understanding the crisis among children and the impoverished and enable the Church to respond*
 - *And, to evangelize, i.e., to proclaim in word and deed the gospel of God's redeeming, reconciling and transforming grace in Jesus Christ to and with children and those oppressed by poverty*

In 2000 and in 2004, the Council reaffirmed its commitment to the Initiative, acknowledging that The United Methodist Church still had far to go in implementing the crucial features of BICAP. In 2004, they developed another foundational document, describing their vision of *The Beloved Community*: "The Beloved Community is to be the visible sign of the body of Christ in the world... The Beloved Community occurs when the church locates itself in the places of greatest need and offers the gifts of God entrusted to it, including the distribution of resources so that all have enough. It is what the church looks like when people are reconciled to God and to one another across lines of race, class, nationality, status, culture, age, and gender."

Community, a key component of the BICAP, is the development of relationships across the boundaries mentioned above, and particularly between people of

different economic classes, so that those who are more affluent are joined in common purpose with those who are more vulnerable.

At the 2004 Western New York Annual Conference priority was given to BICAP by way of an informational presentation and worship experience involving children from our Conference. In celebration of Bishop Fisher's first four years of service to the New York West Area, a ministry fund was launched to respond to the plight of children and the poor on a local and global level by providing grants to ministries supported by our local UM churches that seek to implement the goals of BICAP.

GRANT GUIDELINES

I - Program Parameters:

- A. **Purpose of the grants:** Preference is given to supporting churches within the Western New York Conference in designing and implementing ministry responding to the needs of children and the poor.
- B. **Range of grants:** no more than \$2000
- C. **Grants are not renewable.**
- D. **Funding criteria:** *The proposal must:*
 - 1. Reflect the three goals of the *2001 Biblical and Theological Foundations* (see cover letter) and cite how our Wesleyan heritage of caring for the poor is carried out in the program.
 - 2. Demonstrate that the population to be served has been included, or will be included, in the discernment, planning and/or implementation process.
 - 3. Include an itemized income and expense report and add other sources of funding (include time, materials or other sponsors).
 - 4. Address root causes of the problems facing children and/or the poor (preference may be given to projects having a strong advocacy component).
 - 5. Include an evaluation process to show how you are going to evaluate the outcomes and monitor the program's progress.
 - 6. Provide opportunities for faith development.
- E. **Applications must be typewritten/word processed.** No more than five pages in total (including financial report). Please carefully review the application. We appreciate your numbering the pages, and including a heading or footer on each page identifying the church and project name. Faxes and emails of proposals are permitted.
- F. **Application deadline(s): May 1, 2007**
- G. **Notification:** within 60 days
- H. **Proposals should be directed to:** Rev. Ruthellen Hoyle, Genesee Valley District UMC, 1100 Goodman Street South, Rochester, NY, 14620- 2530. Phone: 585- 340- 9525. Email: geneseevalleyumc@crcds.edu

The application *may* want to demonstrate partnership with other United Methodist bodies (e.g., UM schools/colleges, churches in other conferences, etc.),

with community and ecumenical organizations, and/or with urban or rural ministries.

The Grant Reviewing Team reserves the right to ask for more information and/or matching funds based on ministry impact and overall cost requirements for the ministry in achieving outcomes. Bishop Fisher reserves the right for final approval.

II - Please provide a summary of the proposed project

(This will be your cover letter.) Please create in bulleted rather than narrative form. To save you time, we suggest that you wait until after completing the rest of the proposal to develop this section. We encourage you to limit this to one page or less. It should be a brief synopsis of your request, able to serve as a stand-alone piece.

- A. 1. Project/activity name
2. One sentence summary of project/activity
- B. For this request, summarize:
 - 1. Why (community need)
 - 2. Who and how many (target population, including age, gender, ethnicity, other relevant characteristics)
 - 3. What (services provided)
 - 4. When (timeframe)
 - 5. Where (location of the work)
- C. What do you hope to accomplish (outcomes)?
- D. State the total cost of this effort, and the amount requested from this fund.

III - The application must also include responses to all of the following, keeping in mind the program parameters stated in section I:

- A. Theological Foundation Statement : Offer a brief statement of the theological foundation for this proposal.
- B. Describe how the population to be served has been included or will be included in the discernment, planning and/or implementation process.
- C. Describe your congregation's previous experience with care and/or advocacy efforts, and how you will build on that experience.
- D. How will your project reflect a commitment to addressing root causes of problems facing children and/or the poor? How will advocacy be integrated into the project?
- E. How will opportunities for shared faith development be included, both for the population to be served, and the local church?

IV Final outcomes summary report due at the District Office by February 1, 2008 demonstrating objectives met in the following four areas:

1. Number of youth participants', their age ranges and volunteers involved (including hours per week during the program length).
2. The impact of the program on your local church.
3. The impact of the program on your surrounding community.
4. The evangelical impact of the program on the participating youth.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Please promote a continued funding- special offering to be collected on Bishop Violet L. Fisher's Birthday celebration weekend in August 2007. Call District Office for more details.

*Bishop Violet L Fisher's
Fund for Children and the Poor
Western New York Conference United Methodist Church
Grant Application Cover Sheet*

FUND ADVANCE NUMBER: _____

Name of Local Church _____

Address _____

City _____ *State* _____ *Zip Code* _____

Phone _____ *Fax* _____

Email _____

Person Responsible for Proposal Implementation _____

Address _____

City _____ *State* _____ *Zip Code* _____

Phone _____ *Fax* _____

Email _____

Signature of person responsible for implementation *Date* _____

Signature of pastor *Date* _____

Signature of Chair of Adm. Council or equivalent *Date* _____