

Loaves & Fishes 2022

Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts

Instructions

Welcome to the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts' Loaves & Fishes funding application. We are here to assist you with this grants process.

- If you are unclear about any aspect of the grant application or would like to discuss the funding opportunity, please contact Sheila Toto at stoto@communityfoundation.org.
- If you experience any technical issues with the application, please contact Margaret Everett at meverett@communityfoundation.org.

Grant Focus:

The goal of the Loaves & Fishes Fund is to support liberal, reformed Protestant churches in Hampshire and Franklin counties that are putting faith in action. Funds to benefit churches that are implementing or are looking to implement programs using creative and novel new modes of religious activities to meet human needs in our region.

Program Details:

Eligible entities must have their own IRS designated 501(c)(3) ruling, be covered by a group ruling exemption, or meet the IRS attributes common for churches.

There is approximately \$78,000 available for this grant opportunity with the expectation that award amounts will range between \$5,000 and \$15,000. This funding can support projects up to 24-months.

Only one application per church. Collaboration between churches is encouraged.

This funding is to support a project that is putting faith-in-action and includes specific religious activity. This project does not need to be a new undertaking to be eligible.

This is a two-stage on-line application process. The first stage of the application is due by 11:59 p.m. EST on December 9, 2022. Requests will be reviewed and those that most closely align with the intent of the fund will be invited to complete the second stage of the application which is due by 11:59 p.m. EST on January 31, 2023.

Notification of funding decisions will be made by February 20, 2023, with funds available as of March 3, 2023. It is expected that funded projects will be underway by June 1, 2023.

Funds may support:

- Direct and indirect costs associated with operating a program. These costs may include, but are not limited to, staffing, materials and supplies, equipment, renting of space, utilities, and subcontracts.

*Funds may **NOT** support:*

- Requests from churches which are “fundamentalist” or which believe in a strict literal interpretation of the Christian scripture.
- Projects that influence legislation or election campaigns.
- Endowments
- Facility campaigns, building repairs or maintenance needs.
- Church operating needs beyond those costs associated with the implementation of the program.
- Social action efforts that do not include concrete religious’ activity.

Timeline:

November 7, 2022: Stage 1 application opens.
 December 9, 2022: Stage 1 application closes at 11:59 p.m. EST
 December 20, 2022: Decisions on Stage 1 applications provided
 December 21, 2022: Stage 2 application link sent to invited applicants
 January 31, 2023: Stage 2 application closes at 11:59 p.m. EST
 February 20, 2023: Decisions on Stage 2 applications provided
 March 3, 2023: Funds for awarded programs will be available

Organization Information

Physical Location

Please enter the address of your physical location, if different from your mailing address. If the address is the same, leave this field blank.

Character Limit: 500

Description of Your Church*

Please tell us about your church. Maximum of 500 characters including spaces.

Character Limit: 500

Type of Church*

Is your church described as a liberal, reformed Protestant church?

Choices

Yes

No

Anti-Discrimination Policy*

I certify that I have read the CFWM Anti-Discrimination policy, and the applying organization complies with this policy. Please choose Yes or No.

Choices

Yes

No

Organization Structure*

Please choose the description that best describes your church.

Choices

Church is covered by a group exemption ruling

Church meets the IRS attributes common for churches

Church has its own IRS 501(c)(3) EIN number

Additional Church Information

Name of the larger/overarching religious organization*

Please enter the name of the larger/overarching religious organization of which your church is a member (i.e. the Episcopal Dioceses of Western MA, the Unitarian Universalist Association, etc.). Maximum of 250 characters including spaces.

Character Limit: 250

EIN# or Exempt # for the larger/overarching religious organization*

Please enter the EIN# or the Exempt # for the larger/overarching organization of which your church is a member. Please enter the number in the following format: xx-xxxxxxx or xxxx if an Exempt #.

Character Limit: 15

Church Listing*

Please provide a copy of the Registry or equivalent showing your church's membership in the larger organization (i.e. the title page and the page from the Registry showing your church's listing). If this is not available, please provide a letter of acknowledgement from the larger church stating that you are a member of their organization.

File Size Limit: 5 MB

Common Attributes for a Church

Attributes of your Church*

Please check all the attributes that pertain to your church.

Choices

Definite and distinct ecclesiastical government

Distinct legal existence
Distinct religious history
Established places of worship
Formal code of doctrine and discipline
Literature of its own
Membership not associated with any other church or denomination
Ordained ministers selected after completing prescribed courses of study
Organization of ordained ministers
Recognized creed and form of worship
Regular congregations
Regular religious services
Schools for the preparation of its members
Sunday schools for the religious instruction of the young

EIN of Church

Church EIN*

Please enter the IRS designated EIN of your church. Please enter the number in the following format: xx-xxxxxxx.

Character Limit: 15

Project Information

Project Name*

Please enter a Project Name. Maximum of 100 characters including spaces.

Character Limit: 100

Project Start Date*

Funds are anticipated to become available in March 2023 and can support up to 24 months of programming.

Character Limit: 10

Project End Date*

Funds can support up to 24 months of programming.

Character Limit: 10

Project Summary*

Please tell us about the project for which you are seeking funding. Maximum of 4,000 characters including spaces.

Character Limit: 4000

Human Needs*

What human need(s) is this project addressing? Maximum of 2,000 characters including spaces.

Character Limit: 2000

Faith in Action*

How will the project for which you are seeking funding put faith in action? Please outline specific activities you are thinking of taking place during the specified timeframe. Maximum of 2,000 characters including spaces.

Character Limit: 2000

Project Creativity*

How are the project activities creative or novel for your church? Maximum of 3,000 characters including spaces.

Character Limit: 3000

Project Reach*

Will the proposed project impact people or activities beyond the applying church's congregation?

Choices

Yes

No

Populations Impacted

Populations Impacted*

Which populations will engage in this program and how will they be impacted? Maximum of 2,000 characters including spaces.

Character Limit: 2000

Project Partners

Project Partners*

Does your project involve partners for whom the project would be unable to move forward without their engagement?

Choices

Yes

No

Partners

Partners*

Please provide the names of the partnering organizations and their role(s) in the implementation of this project. Maximum of 2,000 characters including spaces.

Character Limit: 2000

Project Financials

Requested Amount Estimate*

Please **estimate** how much funding you are seeking from the Loaves & Fishes fund. (If your project is selected to move forward in the consideration process, we will ask for a final requested amount in the next application stage.)

Character Limit: 20

Project Budget Estimate*

Please **estimate** how much it will cost to implement the total project during the timeframe specified. (If your project is selected to move forward in the consideration process, a more specific total project budget amount and line-item project budget will be required.)

Character Limit: 20

Closing Comments

Additional Comments

If you have anything else you would like to share, please use the space below. Maximum of 1,500 characters including spaces.

Character Limit: 1500

Thank you for taking the time to complete this information. We look forward to reading it and providing you with a decision. Just as a reminder, below are the next steps in the process:

- December 9, 2022: Stage 1 application closes at 11:59 p.m. EST
- December 20, 2022: Decisions on Stage 1 applications provided
- December 21, 2022: Stage 2 application link sent to invited applicants
- January 31, 2023: Stage 2 application closes at 11:59 p.m. EST
- February 20, 2023: Decisions on Stage 2 applications provided
- March 3, 2023: Funding available to selected churches