



ELCA World Hunger Education and Advocacy Grants

GRANT INFORMATION SHEET – REGULAR CYCLE

This document addresses the background, criteria and submission process for the regular cycle of ELCA World Hunger Education and Advocacy grants. Regular-cycle grant applications are accepted in late winter (February) and awarded in the spring (April/May), whereas off-cycle grant applications are accepted and reviewed between June 1 and December 1 on a rolling basis as long as funding is available.

Background

ELCA World Hunger works to end domestic and international hunger by addressing the root causes of poverty. Through a comprehensive and compassionate program that uses multiple strategies, ELCA World Hunger addresses the complex causes of hunger and poverty around the world and close to home.

We assist communities through:

- **Relief:** providing food, water, housing, and health care during times of immediate need (e.g. food pantry, homeless shelter).
- **Development:** supporting sustainable, long-term and effective solutions to ending hunger and poverty in families and communities through agriculture, education, job training, water, and health projects (e.g. connecting people to jobs and permanent housing).
- **Organizing:** organizing communities to build and maintain an environment that empowers all persons to obtain justice, affirm their dignity, and develop community leaders (e.g. a church talking with city officials about changing local laws or economic systems that negate or negatively affect people living in poverty).
- **Education:** equipping Lutherans to understand hunger's root causes and solutions and to reflect upon lifestyle choices that affect the planet and those who are most vulnerable (e.g. community gardens, educational programs and classes).
- **Advocacy:** speaking with and on behalf of the poor and marginalized by advocating for fair and just laws and business practices with elected officials, governments, and corporations both domestically and internationally (e.g. writing letters to representatives in Congress to support fair and helpful legislation relative to people living in poverty).

This work is accomplished through the efforts of the ELCA Congregational and Synodical Mission, Global Mission and Mission Advancement units of the churchwide organization; companion churches, and partners. ELCA World Hunger grant programs support work that furthers the objectives and guidelines of ELCA World Hunger. These objectives and guidelines are found at www.elca.org/hunger/guidelines.

ELCA World Hunger Grants – An Overview

There are two domestic hunger grant processes each with their own application, review process, and deadlines. *For proper consideration of your grant request, please select the most appropriate grant program for your application:*

- **Education and Advocacy Grants:**

These grants provide funding to organizations engaged in hunger education and advocacy work. *Details about the education and advocacy grants are contained in this document.* They can also be found at www.elca.org/hunger/educationadvocacygrants.

- **Domestic Hunger Grants (for Relief, Development, and Community Organizing):**

These grants provide funding to organizations engaged in domestic relief, development, and community organizing. See above for examples. Details about the Domestic Hunger Grants Program can be found at: www.elca.org/domestichungergrants.

Education and Advocacy Grants – Eligibility and Criteria

ELCA World Hunger Education and Advocacy grants fund activities or core operations of organizations that work for justice by using a variety of *education* and *advocacy* strategies to address the root causes and solutions of hunger. Grant awards are typically between \$3,000 and \$7,000. To be eligible for a Hunger Education/Advocacy grant, an organization should:

- Be a non-profit charitable organization classified as a 501(c)(3) public charity by the Internal Revenue Service, or operate under the fiscal sponsorship of a 501(c)(3).
- Have a mission aligned with one or more of the following categories:
 - **Education** – engages and equips ELCA members to recognize the abundance of God’s creation and addresses the root cause and solutions to hunger and poverty, highlights the importance of lifestyle stewardship, and empowers people and organizations to act through a variety of learning opportunities.
 - **Advocacy** – works to overcome the effects and root causes of hunger and poverty through administrative, legislative and judicial actions in the public sphere, and through corporate actions in the private sphere.
- Apply for EITHER an Education/Advocacy grant OR a Domestic Hunger (for relief, development and community organizing) grant for support on the same project, but not both.
- Have a formal or informal connection with the ELCA, its synods, congregations, affiliated organizations, or ministries.
- Demonstrate an implementation and sustainability plan, including identification of other funding sources for the work of the project and/or organization.
- While not required, **if** a grant request proposes creating a resource, it is recommended that that resource be made available to other organizations, so that the ELCA grant award dollars are further leveraged beyond the initial grant proposal.

Grant Deadlines

The regular grant cycle for ELCA World Hunger Education and Advocacy grants runs between January and May. We review regular cycle grant applications annually in March/April with payment going to organizations receiving grant awards in April/May. There is some flexibility for unanticipated last-minute needs through the off-cycle grant process, for which applications are reviewed as-needed, based on the actual remaining grant dollars. The off-cycle grant process begins in June. For more information about ELCA World Hunger off-cycle grants, please read the off-cycle grant information sheet at www.elca.org/hunger/educationadvocacygrants.

Regular Cycle Grant Process Overview (2011)

- Grant application available online – January 4
- Deadline for submitting grant applications/supporting materials to ELCA – February 21
- ELCA reviews applications and makes grant decisions – March/April
- ELCA sends written notification of grant decisions to applicants – April
- ELCA sends grant checks to recipients – April/May
- ELCA e-mails grant evaluation forms to grant recipients – October 3
- Deadline for submission of grant evaluations to ELCA – December 5

Regular Cycle Grant Application Overview

Yearly applications are required. All application materials need to be received by ELCA World Hunger no later than **5:00 p.m. (CST) on Monday, February 21, 2011.**

The grant application consists of four different components:

1. 2011 Application Form (including two-page project proposal **and electronic approval**)
2. Organization Budget
3. Project Budget (*if applicable*)
4. Letter of Support

Grant Application Submission Instructions

1. **Application Form and Budget:** The 2011 application form is to be completed and e-mailed with the organization budget and project budget (*if applicable*) to HungerGrants@elca.org by 5:00 p.m. (CST) on **Monday, February 21**. The last page of the application form includes an electronic approval that replaces a handwritten signature. **The “I accept” box MUST be checked for the grant application to be considered.** The application form is an Adobe PDF file and requires Adobe Reader to view and complete it. Adobe Reader software can be downloaded for free at www.elca.org/Who-We-Are/Our-Three-Expressions/Churchwide-Organization/Information-Technology/Software.aspx.
[NOTE: The 2011 application form will be available on January 4, 2011.]
2. **Letter of Support:** Applicants are required to demonstrate a connection to the ELCA with **one** (and only one) letter of support by an ELCA pastor, bishop, Lutheran agency/institution or churchwide staff member. All letters of support must fully answer points B and C below.

This letter of support must be...

- A) Submitted directly to ELCA World Hunger by the author (*person endorsing the organization*), separate from the application form. The signed letter must be submitted by **Monday, February 21** electronically to *HungerGrants@elca.org* or via FAX (773-380-2707) with a cover page addressed to Christopher Carpenter.
- B) The author should explain how a relationship between the organization and ELCA World Hunger will impact/enhance each other's work.
- C) If the organization has previously received support from the ELCA, the author should address specifically why and how continued investment furthers the objectives and guidelines of ELCA World Hunger.

Additional Requirements

- Submission of an evaluation of the work/project that was funded six months after receiving the grant. Evaluation forms will be e-mailed to the organization in October 2011. The organization will not be eligible to apply for future funding until this evaluation has been completed and received.
- Willingness to write article(s) for the ELCA World Hunger newsletter (*LifeLines*), Web site, blog or other venue if requested.

Questions?

Contact *HungerGrants@elca.org* or call 1-800-638-3522 ext. 2815.