

# Metro Milwaukee Lutheran Mission Society



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## Outreach Initiatives for 2008-2009

All initiatives are founded on these three principals:

1. God endowed each of us with special gifts which, when realized, allow for fulfilling lives
2. A personal relationship with God is a never-ending quest that enlightens and strengthens us to fulfill our ministry responsibilities
3. Ministry happens when God allows people to become involved with others and use their gifts in service to them through Him

Based on these three principals and our continuing assessment of the inner city of Milwaukee, the MMLMS has developed the following outreach initiatives to be funded in part through the Siebert Lutheran Foundation. Several of the initiatives will be offered specifically to inner-city churches that do not have designated programs in targeted areas. But they all take on a city-wide approach, with many of the initiatives having built-in incentives to encourage partnerships between inner-city and suburban churches as they walk alongside each other in the ministry. *(Please note that listed funding amounts are estimates and are not guaranteed.)*

The following preconditions are required before funding will occur:

1. The program has been approved by your church council or governing board
2. Your congregation recognizes and supports this on-going initiative
3. There is a designated person(s) responsible for the ministry who will be required to fill out quarterly reports either by mail or on-line
4. There is a designated space at the church/school for ministry to occur
5. Overall ministry is focused in one or more of these areas: Serving, Outreach Worship, Education or Relationship (Fellowship)
6. There is a simple activity plan developed and accountability of funding is given back to the MMLMS on a quarterly basis
7. There is a secondary purpose of each ministry in developing leaders
8. By the ninth month of funding, a plan is in place from your church to continue internally funding the program or abandoning it; we may consider additional funding if the program is growing or is in need of help in a specific area

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## **Youth Initiative**

The focus of the program is to offer teens (ages 13-18) a safe place where they can gather on a weekly basis, participate in fellowship, education, and/or servant-based activities all while experiencing a Christ-centered program led by caring mentors. The program includes funding for a ministry coordinator, food for gatherings, monthly fellowship activities, and Bible study materials (estimated at \$5,000 with a partnership incentive of \$1,000).

### Outcomes:

- Youth realize the God-given talents that they have and use them in productive ways
- Youth learn, understand, and exhibit positive ways to handle emotions
- Youth come to know Jesus Christ as their friend and Savior

## **Men's Ministry Initiative**

The focus of the program is to provide opportunities for Bible study, fellowship activities, and worship opportunities to men (ages 19 and older) with the overriding goal of developing mentors for children who don't have male role models in their lives. The program includes funding for a ministry coordinator, food for gatherings, and Bible study materials (estimated at \$3,500 with a partnership incentive of \$1,000).

### Outcomes:

- Men realize the necessity of sharing one's talents with others
- Men begin to grow closer in their personal relationship with God
- Men have opportunities to support and encourage each other in brotherhood
- Men are given opportunities to become mentors

## **Violence Prevention Initiative for Grammar School**

This initiative is being offered through Linda Zick of Jeremiah Ministries who has developed a specific Christian, faith-based violence prevention curriculum for children in grades 4-8. The program is called "Our Children as Peacemakers" and is an issue-based discussion/activity program that allows children to confront and the risks that they face on a daily basis. The program includes funding for a trainer, materials, and travel (estimated at \$3,200 with a partnership incentive of \$1,500).

### Outcomes:

- Children become proactive peacemakers in their schools, families, and communities
- Children learn to understand and confront issues about violence
- Children learn new coping skills that are Biblically based

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## **Soup Kitchen Initiative**

This initiative developed out of a program that started at Ebenezer Lutheran Church on the south side as part of their expanding outreach effort. Now that a successful model has been developed, we are looking to replicate this program in at least three other churches (east, north and west) within the city limits. This program runs once each week and includes funding for start-up costs and food for fifty-two weeks (estimated at \$5, 500).

Outcomes:

- Recipients and congregational members develop caring relationships
- Recipients begin to feel strengthened in body, mind, and spirit

## **Revitalization – Transformation Initiative**

The purpose of this initiative is to transform churches within the inner city that are inwardly focused to be modeled after the “Great Commission.” This focus puts the efforts of the church directly into the mission field, seeking out the lost and uncommitted in the surrounding neighborhood. The program includes funding for a coordinator and a trainer (estimated at \$3,000).

Outcomes:

- Congregations are outwardly focused and embrace the Great Commission
- Increase the number of participants in worship and involvement in inner-city ministry
- Members respond to God’s call in the sharing of their time, talents, and treasure

## **Communication Initiative**

This initiative is offered through Icthus Technologies for all inner-city churches that are interested. Because communication of your mission and vision plan is necessary in order to get people involved and to keep everyone well informed, this initiative will set up a web site with email capabilities. A plan to update information on a weekly if not a daily basis is a basic requirement for all churches who want to grow and develop a successful ministry. The program includes funding for initial set up and domain name purchase, yearly maintenance and updates, a training class, and an internal coordinator (estimated at \$3,800).

Outcomes:

- Community and congregational members are more aware of activities taking place at church and school, increasing participation
- Communication is available about church and school on a world-wide basis, increasing accessibility
- Parents and congregational members can communicate ideas and suggestions to a larger audience in less time

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## **Nursing Home Chaplaincy Initiative**

This initiative is an expansion of our current nursing home outreach to the elderly through pastors who are willing to provide worship opportunities to residents on a periodic basis. The program includes funding for both chaplaincy services and mileage (estimated at \$1,700 with a partnership incentive of \$1,000).

### Outcomes:

- Residents and staff are exposed to God's Word, allowing for Christian growth and a deeper, more personal relationship with God
- Visitors, residents, and others who don't know Christ may be exposed to the Gospel, allowing the Holy Spirit to work within them

## **Youth Basketball League Initiative**

This initiative is an expansion of our current youth basketball program geared toward high school students that are not playing on their school teams. The program includes league fee, gym rentals, and team jerseys (estimated at \$500).

### Outcomes:

- Youth involvement within a Christian-based basketball league will allow for opportunities for witnessing in both word and action
- The God-given talents of the youth are used productively resulting in a healthy mind, body and spirit

## **Special Needs Initiative**

This initiative is currently being looked at due to the past needs of special education children and adults from our local congregations. The program includes funding for a coordinator and a monthly activity (estimated at \$2,400 with a partnership incentive of \$1,000).

### Outcome:

- Special-needs children and adults continue to experience Christ's love and compassion through caring adults