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Newly Approved 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

Metro Milwaukee Lutheran Mission Society



Holy Smokers

This initiative is offered through a partnership arrangement with Grace Menomonee Falls (GMF) Men's Ministry. Holy Smoker's is a men's ministry project that focuses on providing hospitality support as part of evangelism opportunities to neighborhood inner city churches. They do this by providing a team of men from GMF that work with congregations at a church outreach events such as church/community picnics or congregation/neighborhood fair. They provide a meat smoker that can feed up to 2000 people at an event. Food is provided free to all who attend event. There is a limit on the number of events that they can do each year which is six from May 15th to Oct 15th. Average funding given - \$1000.00

Outcomes:

- Offers a new and unique way to have men become involved with outreach ministry in the church
- Provides congregation opportunity to provide not only food for the body but also for the soul
- Provides initial opportunity for men to develop beginning Christ-Centered relationship with other men who are searching

Creative Art Partners for Special Education Students

This joint initiative between an outer rim school and a Milwaukee inner city school incorporates the aspect of creative arts in the learning and development of academically challenged children. This program would offer opening for the outer rim school to be the catalyst in providing creative art opportunities that would be staged at their home base. The program would run 2 times a month for a variety of students from both schools and would be utilized to develop both friendship partners between schools along with providing new learning paradigms offering educational integration with the arts.

Average funding given includes partnership grant - \$3500.00

Outcomes:

- academically challenged students incorporate new learning strategies
- children vested in creative arts have shown an increase in memory, coordination, cooperation and concentration
- children who are exposed to "hands on" creative arts program are able to experience the world and their environment from a broader perspective

Metro Milwaukee Lutheran Mission Society



Path Finder Ministries

This initiative is offered by Pastor Paul Ihlenfeld from Path Finder Ministries. It includes programs for both personal and congregational renewal. Most programs are offered in four-session workshops or a single study group. This would be a great way to increase participation in senior or Sunday morning Bible study as commitment is short term which fits in with most schedules today. Pastor Ihlenfeld has a unique way of looking at life that is “enjoying the life that God has given you – effectively handling the painful parts of living, loving and aging” (estimated at \$1,500).

Outcomes:

- Provides another tool for reaching out into the community to involve seniors and others within church setting
- Increase in the number of participants in worship and involvement in inner city ministry
- Participants grow from knowledge that is given and develop a closer personal relationship with their Savior

Handicapped Accessible Initiative

Many of our older churches are not accessible to those in wheelchairs or scooters. This prohibits those who are older to come to church or join in other church related activities, bible studies or community events. This initiative will pay up to \$2000 for related ramps, or permanent walkways that allow for easy access for those who utilize wheelchairs or motorized scooters to get to church

Outcomes:

- Provides for greater accessibility of those who are physically handicapped
- Exhibits a caring Christian community that is concerned with those who are physically handicapped or in wheelchairs