

The Northwest Regional Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)

Transformation Grant Application Information

General Information:

The purpose of the Transformation Grant Application is to support congregations within the Northwest Regional Christian Church in their endeavor to be congregations equipped for ministry in the the 21st Century.

Below are statements from our RISE Ministry Plan that speak to the issue of congregational transformation. Applying congregations are encouraged to use these statements as guidelines for shaping their responses.

RISE Mission Plan

In our RISE Mission Plan we list as Core Values the following:

Living Forward

We celebrate that God is always doing a new thing

Our faithful response is to continually be open to new ways of being church together

Though we honor and celebrate past traditions, we are not bound or limited by them.

God-Centered, Spirit Led

We recognize that God is in our midst, shaping and forming our life together.

We intentionally seek opportunities to listen anew for the Spirit's direction through prayer, worship, study of scripture, and the collective wisdom of the gathered community.

Under Focus V in the Mission Plan: Grow Our Faith Communities we proclaim,

In our life together we desire to nurture and celebrate a culture of openness to new patterns of behavior and thinking as we support existing congregations and nurture new congregations for ministry into the evolving future of God's church.

Under B in that section (Energizing Existing Congregations) these objectives are listed:

Support and encourage congregations to find new energy to pursue ongoing paths of transformation

Help congregations engage in necessary conversations for health and vitality

Encourage congregations to develop habits and practices required for faithful and effective ministry.

Grant Amount

The maximum grant award for project proposals is \$1,000 with a maximum of two grants over a three year period. Funding for Transformation Grants comes from the Transformation

funds held by the Region. The Mission Council of the Region will be responsible for reviewing and awarding grants. Up to 5 grants per year will be granted over the next three years, beginning in 2011.

Funding Eligibility Criteria:

All Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) congregations within the Northwest Region are eligible to apply for funding. The project may be in conjunction with other churches or organizations, but the application must be initiated by a Northwest Regional congregation or Regional task force.

Project Criteria:

Priority will be given to projects that meet **most** of the following criteria:

Projects that address the mission of the region as stated in the Mission Plan.

Projects that cause the congregation to step out in new directions or approach ministry in a new way.

Projects that positively impact the greater community (locally or globally)

Projects that involve new programs or are a significant and unique expansion of an existing program.

The project receives a positive recommendation from the Regional Minister.

Funding Limitations

Funding will **not** be considered for the following:

Projects that deliver goods or services that are already provided in the community

Capital expenditures such as buildings, fixtures, building renovations or high-cost equipment.

Application Process:

To apply for a grant, please follow the outline format beginning on page 3 of this packet. Mail or e-mail your application to the address provided below. Please direct all questions you may have about the application to the same address, or by calling the Regional Office at (253)893-7202. E-mail to smessick@disciplesnw.org

Contact Information

NWRCC
PO Box 23819
Federal Way, WA 98093

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(This page must accompany all applications)

Name of the Congregation: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

Zip: _____ Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

Contact Person: _____

Title: _____

Signature of Board Chair or Minister: _____

Provide a brief description of your project in the space provided:

On separate pages please answer each of the following areas:
Program Description

Provide a brief description of your congregation and current ministries.

Have you previously received a Transformation Grant from the Northwest Regional Christian Church? When/Date How much/amount?

Describe your target population.

Is this a new project or are you applying to expand a current project?

What do you expect to see as a result of this project?

How will you measure your success?

How will you evaluate this project upon completion?

Identify how this project relates to the RISE Mission Plan.

Budget Description

A detailed budget including the specifics of the project.

What dollar amount has your congregation committed to this project?

How will the project continue when funding has ended?

Other...

One or two letters of support, preferably from those members of the congregation or people in the community with whom you are building relationships; this may also be from the regional minister or partnering organizations.

Any letters or additional documentation you may wish to provide.

Follow Up

Six months after receiving the grant, please provide a project update and evaluation.
Thank you.