

CVBA Church Growth and Ministry Grants

Purpose:

The CVBA exists to support and assist member churches in growth and congregational health and to support and assist member churches in reaching their communities in evangelism and ministry. The CVBA Church Growth and Ministry Grant program has been established . . .

(a) to enable member churches to implement innovative congregational growth strategies, and/or

(b) to enable member churches to implement innovative community ministries that communicate the gospel to their mission field

. . . the accomplishment of which requires resources beyond what that church can reasonably afford. Therefore, while these grants are available to all associational churches, the priority is on those churches that are most in need of assistance from the larger community to foster new growth and enable greater community outreach.

The CVBA Church Growth and Ministry Grant is a vehicle for demonstrating our mutual interest and concern as churches in voluntary association and cooperative mission. It is a declaration that our concern for God's Kingdom is greater than any one church, and that the success of each church is a cause for celebration for us all.

These grants are expanded mission and ministry, and are not to be used to cover the regular budget expenses of the church, supplement staff salaries, or for the maintenance and construction of church facilities.

Qualifications:

1. CVBA Church Growth and Ministry Grants are available to any CVBA member congregation or CVBA entity entity deemed by the Steering Committee to be vitally linked with, supportive of, and active in the CVBA throughout the previous 12 months.
2. Grant requests will not be considered for individuals but will only be considered by a requesting member church having officially voted to seek the grant or by a participating CVBA entity that has obtained approval from the Steering Committee to seek the grant.
3. Churches receiving a grant must agree to provide a full report to the Association on the outcome of their church growth or ministry project within a period of 18 months from the receipt of the grant check, and abide by other terms of the covenant as detailed on the application form.
4. Churches receiving a grant will not be eligible to apply again for a minimum of two years or for a period roughly equal to one year per \$1000 granted, whichever is longer.

Oversight of the Grant Process:

The process of applying for these grants, the evaluation of applications, and the oversight of current grant-enabled projects shall be handled by the CVBA Steering Committee. This committee will limit the total of grants approved annually to an amount that provides for the continuation of the grant program, and shall make budget requests for the continued funding of this program.

The maximum granted to any single congregation is \$ 5000.00 — this amount to be reviewed annually by the Steering Committee and adjusted as needed by Associational vote.

Please note that these guidelines do not anticipate all possible situations and future needs, so flexibility is needed. Therefore the CVBA Steering Committee may, by unanimous decision, make exceptions to these guidelines in cases of special need or opportunity.

Attachments:

CVBA Church Growth and Ministry Grants Application Form

Grant Report Purpose and Guidelines

(Revised March 2005)

CVBA Church Growth and Ministry Grants Application Form

Name of Church: _____

Name of Project: _____

Primary Project Contact: _____ Phone: _____

How will this project: (a) enable your church to implement innovative congregational growth strategies, and/or (b) enable your church to implement innovative community ministries that communicate the gospel to their mission field? _____

How does the church plan to invest in this project? _____

Please list the anticipated expenses of conducting this project in moderate detail:

<i>Item</i>	<i>Expected Costs</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Expected Costs</i>
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Total amount of project: _____

Amount of Grant Request: _____ (Maximum = \$ 5000.00)

Date funds are needed: _____

If the total amount of grants requested exceeds the available funds, what is the minimum grant that would allow your church to proceed with this project? _____

Form continued on back:

Are there any other comments or considerations you would like to share with the committee?

Church Covenant and Approval:

We of the _____ church of the Central Virginia Baptist Association endorse the following grant request and give our support to the project and project leader(s) presented above. If our request is approved, we hereby agree to provide our fellow member churches a full report on the outcome of this project within 18 months of the receipt of grant monies. We also pledge to remain as active and supportive members of the CVBA into the foreseeable future, that other churches might experience the mutual support of our participation in the CVBA.

date of church approval

name of church clerk / church officer

For Steering Committee Use:

Date received from church: _____ Date reviewed by committee: _____

Church meets qualifications? Y N (If not, specify: _____)

Grant approved? Y N If so, amount approved: _____

Date presented to church: _____

Follow-up: Was report given to association within 18 months? Y N

Grant Report Purpose and Guidelines

If your grant request is approved, you are agreeing to present a report to the CVBA Steering Committee on the outcome of your project within 18 months of the date on which your grant was received. You are also agreeing to present a report to the CVBA membership at the next semi-annual meeting of the Association. This report allows the churches which shared in the funding of your project to also share in the results. The report also provides information and guidance to other churches that may be looking for or considering similar growth and ministry ideas. You may consider your project to have “succeeded” or “failed” to produce the intended results, or you may have discovered completely unintended and unexpected positive outcomes. As you proceeded, your project may have taken a very different direction than what was originally planned. In any case, your results and discoveries are important to us all.

Here are some ideas and guidelines for your final report:

1. The report should be presented to the Steering Committee within 18 months of the receipt of your grant. Your project may still be ongoing, and your results not finalized, so the report need only include your results to-date.
2. This report should then be shared at the Spring or Fall Annual Meeting which follows your presentation to the Steering Committee.
3. The report may be written, but the addition of pictures, PowerPoint, video, testimonies, and other extras are encouraged. The written report should be no longer than two pages. This report should provide others with a general overview of your project and goals, how you proceeded, any problems or surprises, and what outcome you experienced.