



National **Benevolent** Association

NBA Mission and Ministry Grants Overview and Frequently Asked Questions

Serving as the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)'s health and social service general ministry, the National Benevolent Association partners with Disciples-related health and social service providers, local congregations, regions, and general ministries. The NBA equips and collaborates with partner ministries and organizations that provide direct care to and advocacy for those in need—via affordable housing, spiritual care for the incarcerated and returning citizens, children and family services, programs for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities, outreach services for older adults, and initiatives addressing issues of injustice related to mental health services and policies, to name only a few. This grant funding complements and is distinctive from our other ministry initiatives.

Q: Who is the NBA?

Following God's call, the National Benevolent Association exists to inspire and connect the people and ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), to accompany one another in the creation of communities of compassion and care, and to advocate for the well-being of humanity.

Q: What are the areas of support that NBA grants are funding?

The NBA seeks to provide funding support to projects and ministries working with "Educational Purposes for At-Risk Youth and Young Adults" between the ages of 10 – 25 years and "Older Adult Ministries" serving those who are 50 years or older. These are communities who have been instrumental in NBA's ministry since our founding in 1886-87, and with whom we seek to continue strengthening compassionate commitment and care. Currently, the NBA has purpose-restricted funds in these two areas that we are making available for granting purposes.

Q: What are the areas that NBA grants will NOT support?

- ✓ Individuals
- ✓ Endowments
- ✓ Capital improvements (i.e. construction, remodeling, building expansion)
- ✓ National ceremonies, memorials, conferences, fundraising dinners, testimonials, or other similar events
- ✓ Elected officials
- ✓ Projects outside of the United States and Canada
- ✓ Note, this list is not exhaustive, and the NBA holds the right to determine fit and connection to the NBA ministries of each proposal and grant application received.

Q: Who can submit proposals for funding?

Congregations and health and social service ministries affiliated with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) that are located in the United States and Canada. American projects must

have a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status through the church and/or the state in which the ministry operates. Canadian projects must be registered charities through the CRA.

Q: What is the amount of funding that can be applied for?

All applicants must meet the funding guidelines. We will accept grant requests in these three categories and amounts, (USD for American dollars and CAD for Canadian dollars):

Catalyst Grants USD \$1,000 - \$5,000 (CAD \$1,330 - \$6,655)

These are startup funds to get projects up and running and/or expand an existing project to a new area/initiative; these grants should enable your organization to explore a new venture or a new project idea.

Innovation Grants USD \$6,000 - \$15,000 (CAD \$7,985 - \$19,955)

These funds should help move an established project to a new level of effectiveness and impact. In your application, clearly explain how these funds will help accomplish this.

Impact Grants USD \$20,000+ (CAD \$26,610+)

Impact funds should be used for major leaps in your project area with a proven plan for how these will move you to a new level of sustainability and impact. Grantees will be required to work closely with NBA staff to ensure implementation and sustainability of the projects and to provide opportunities for the rest of the church to learn from your experience.

Q: Can I submit multiple applications at one time?

No. Projects/agencies may only submit one proposal within a single grant cycle. Applications will be open for submission once per year.

Q: Can I submit an application if I am already receiving funds from NBA through another mission area, such as the NBA Incubate Initiative?

Grants will not be offered to projects/agencies already receiving NBA funding through another program.

Q: Are the grants only offered once per entity, or can I apply in successive years?

The intent for this granting process is to provide support for one year. The NBA holds the right to approve or not to approve a grant request.

Q: Am I required to submit a report of how I used the funds and the outcomes achieved?

Yes. The NBA will provide you with an impact report form. When grants are awarded, each grantee must agree to fully complete the impact report form.

Q: What other requirements will NBA have if I receive a grant?

The NBA will require you to work with NBA staff to write (or record in some fashion) a story about your project and the impact your project is having in your setting. The NBA always looks to foster learning for the whole church about effective health and social service ministries, and we will work with you to help amplify the success and impact of the work you are doing.

Q: How will my application be reviewed, and how will I be informed if my project will or won't be funded?

A granting committee consisting of NBA staff and members of the NBA Board of Trustees will review all grant applications and make funding decisions. All applicants will be notified of the outcome of that process. If your project does not receive funding, efforts will be made to share the reasons for that decision. Those projects will be encouraged, when appropriate, to submit an application for the next year's grant cycle.

Q: When are grants due? When should we expect to hear back from NBA? When will we receive our funds if we are approved?

- Sept 14: All applications/proposals due to Grant Committee
- Nov 15: Inform recipients/awardees

Q: I have accessed your NBA grants webpage and am reviewing the application now. If I have questions, who can I contact?

Please read and review all the information about the NBA grants process. If there are additional questions, you can email grants@nbacares.org.

National Benevolent Association
Mission, Vision and Values
www.nbacaes.org

Mission Statement

Following God’s call, the National Benevolent Association exists to inspire and connect the people and ministries of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), to accompany one another in the creation of communities of compassion and care, and to advocate for the well-being of humanity.

Vision Statement

Creating communities of compassion and care

Core Values

The core values of the NBA, a general ministry of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), serve as the foundation of how we go about our work, organize ourselves and the communities we partner with, and how we measure our programs and initiatives. We live out these values in our daily interactions with one another and with the community members we accompany and advocate alongside. These values endure from season to season, situation to situation, and person to person. They guide our organizational culture as we live out faithful commitments to all of God’s creation.

Rooted in Compassionate Care

We celebrate those who have served before us in creating a just world. Since 1886, the NBA’s mission and work emerged from the faithful witness of a small group of Disciples women seeking to address the needs of children and families in need. We value this legacy of serving the “least of these” and endeavor to root all of our initiatives in the value and dignity of human life and in serving a world that God so loves.

Accountability

We claim our duty to be effective stewards of the resources entrusted to us. We are fiscally responsible and acknowledge our accountability to our partners and the communities we serve. We treat others with respect and strive to conduct our work in the spirit of transparency and openness. Where there is brokenness, we strive for reconciliation.

Collaborative Partnerships

We believe that meaningful results to build compassionate and caring communities happen only when we can work in partnership with God and a wide diversity of others – individuals, communities, congregations, and organizations. We affirm that by working with partners, as well as those we serve, and by practicing humble leadership, we have what we need to make a difference.

Accompaniment

We value the creative voice and mind of all people as we seek to heed God's call, especially in the important work of developing solutions through creative and innovative efforts designed to address personal challenges and systemic oppression. As we assume a posture of openness, we find in each other's company the "bread" that will sustain us all. As we share life's joys and struggles, at times picking up one another's load going the hard way together, we create communities of compassion and care.

Forward Leaning

We commit to learning and adapting as we move into the future. We understand that during times of change and new directions, the path forward often involves uncertainty and challenges. Through our shared efforts of advocacy, education, pastoral response, and professional care and services, we move towards the health and well-being of all.