

**National Benevolent Association Mission and Ministry Grant Program:
21 Projects Funded to Support Older Adults and At-Risk Children and Youth in 2018**

December 4, 2017

Through its Mission and Ministry Grants Program, the National Benevolent Association of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is granting a total of **\$150,250 to 21 Disciples projects and ministries** working with older adults and at-risk children and youth.

In June 2017, the NBA announced the launch of this new grant program, making purpose-restricted funds available for distribution through grants to Disciples congregations and health and social service ministries. The NBA Grants Committee accepted and evaluated applications through the fall, and grant funds are now being distributed to selected projects for use in 2018.

This year’s grantees are located across 12 Disciples regions and 4 areas. Of the 21 selected projects, 14 are focused on at-risk children and youth; 5 are focused on older adults; and 2 are intergenerational, serving both communities.

“Disciples ministries across the life of the church are called in innovative, relevant ways to work with and serve ‘the least of these’—reaching out to neighbors, those on the margins, young and old, and truly being the church,” says Mark D. Anderson, NBA President and CEO. “These Disciples are creating communities of compassion and care every day, and we are grateful for the opportunity to lift up and support this good work through NBA Mission and Ministry Grants.”

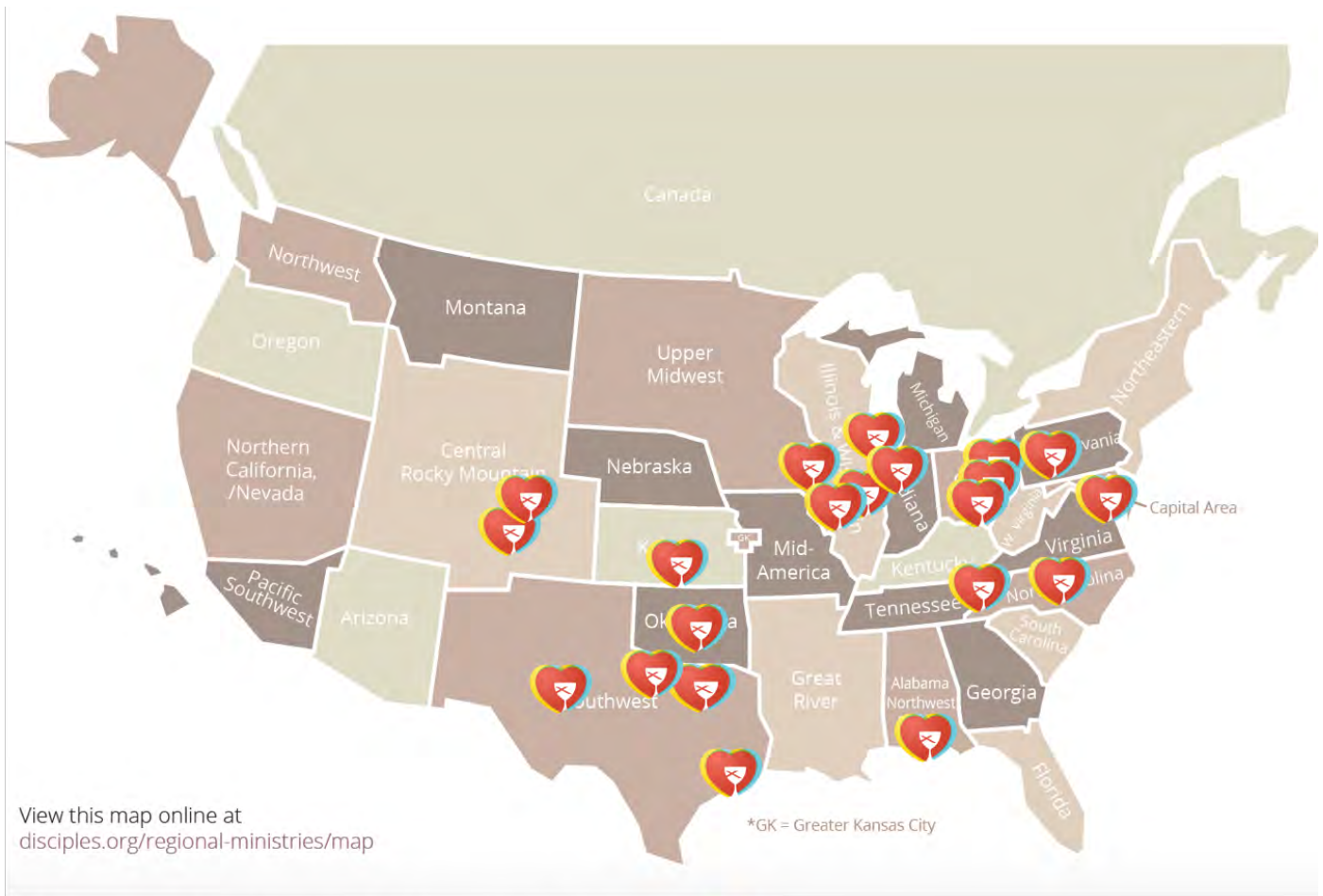
Read about the first cohort of grantees and their projects below! We look forward to sharing a spotlight on each ministry with more project details starting in January, with updates to come from grantees throughout the year.

NBA Mission and Ministry Grantees - Funding for 2018

Grantee Project	Organization/Congregation	Project Description	Grant Awarded
Older Adults			
<i>Catalyst Grants</i>			
Disciples Personal Care Pantry	First Christian Church dba Disciples Personal Care Pantry, Burkburnett, TX	Providing cleaning products, toiletries, and personal items to the community residents	\$2,500
The 'Bet'Away (Better Way) Group	Heights Christian Church, Shaker Heights, OH	Envisioning the first faith-based recovery group for problem gamblers in the area, many of whom are seniors.	\$2,750
Health and Wellness for Seniors through Technology	Bethel Christian Church, Jonesborough, TN	Improving the lives of seniors through the use of technology, introducing them to computer tablets connected to the internet.	\$3,000
<i>Innovation Grants</i>			
A Partnership of Caring	Christian Temple, Catonsville, MD	Partnering with National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Metropolitan Baltimore to provide one-on-one encouragement and support to persons living in two local assisted living facilities, creating ongoing support groups designed to reduce isolation and engender hope.	\$15,000
Friends Helping Friends	Juliette Fowler Communities, Dallas, TX	Providing hot meals for the lowest income residents at Fowler Christian Apartments, through a program initiated by fellow Fowler residents.	\$15,000
Total Grants for Older Adults			\$38,250

Grantee Project	Organization/Congregation	Project Description	Grant Awarded
At-Risk Children and Youth			
<i>Catalyst Grants</i>			
JUMPSTART Back-to-School Clinic	First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Blue Mound, IL	Providing free school health screenings and sports physicals for school-aged children, with supplemental assistance as needed.	\$1,000
Creation of Space for Children and Families with Special Needs	First Christian Church of Edmond, OK	Developing worshipful space where children with special needs and their families can worship and connect with the greater congregation.	\$1,000
RISE (Respect, Include, Support, Embrace) and SHINE (Supporting Hearts in New Experiences)	First Christian Church, Midland, TX	Upgrading the Special Needs Sunday School for children with severe special needs who require specialized care.	\$2,000
Hope Academic / Tutoring Services (H.A.T.S.)	Hope Christian Church, Hammond, IN	Providing supplemental and enhanced academic services ranging from tutoring K-12 students in the community to providing life skills classes for small groups.	\$2,000
Camp Sunflower	Pine Valley Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Wichita, KS	Providing a camp for at-risk, high school-age LGBTQ Youth that promotes safety and acceptance, resulting in self-knowledge and development of leadership skills.	\$2,000
Gathering Space	Disciples Christian Church, Cleveland Heights, OH	Providing a space for the area's Bhutanese immigrant youth and families to meet and learn work and life skills in the United States.	\$3,000
Living Your Life: Coping with Depression and Anxiety	First Christian Church, Salida, CO	Partnering with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment to provide spiritual support and workshops for young women on managing anxiety during pregnancy.	\$3,000
S.M.A.R.T. Academic and Enrichment Outreach Program	Shalom Community Christian Church, Inc. Greensboro, NC	Providing academic support and nutritional meals to low-income, under-performing, and/or homeless students throughout the school year and summer.	\$3,000
Rise Up Project	15th Avenue Christian Church, Rock Island, IL	Recognizing the specific needs of juvenile court-involved youth and providing an opportunity for these youth to develop positive connections with community resources, positive interpersonal, workforce development, and lifestyle skills.	\$5,000
Community Dinner Kitchen Skills Training	University Place Christian Church, Champaign, IL	Adding four paid youth interns to an established free dinner outreach program to teach job skills, nutrition, and responsibility to high school students at risk.	\$5,000
<i>Innovation Grants</i>			
Wilkinsburg Youth Collaboration Focused on Life Skills and Arts Engagement	Christian Church of Wilkinsburg, PA	Working with The Entertainment Consortium to provide quality, year-round programming focused on access to arts and performance.	\$10,000
Young Change Makers	Community of Just Love, Houston, TX	Preparing underserved youth on the margins for a self-sufficient future that will allow for economic and political parity.	\$10,000
Kitchen Apprenticeship Program at Sanctuary Cafe for Opportunity Youth	University Christian Church, Chicago, IL	Offering certificate-level hospitality training in a paid work environment to youth who are disconnected from school, family, or work.	\$10,000
Specialized Education for Abused, Neglected, and Traumatized Children	Tennyson Center for Children at Colorado Christian Home, Denver, CO	Providing uniquely tailored, "trauma-informed" therapeutic and educational strategies to help abused, neglected, and traumatized children achieve academic success.	\$15,000
Total Grants for At-Risk Children and Youth			\$72,000
Grantee Project	Organization/Congregation	Project Description	Grant Awarded
Intergenerational: At-Risk Children and Youth + Older Adults			
<i>Catalyst Grant</i>			
Expanded Kitchen at The Dinner Table	Good Shepherd Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Macedonia, OH	Offering hospitality and nourishment for body and soul through free community meals with upgraded kitchen equipment.	\$5,000
<i>Impact Grant</i>			
Community in Action: Each One Teach One	Snow Hill Christian Church/ Lowndes County Community Life Center, Fort Deposit, AL	Integrating intergenerational activities for youth and seniors, including day classes, field trips, after-school tutoring, quilting, community meals, and more.	\$35,000
Total Intergenerational Grants			\$40,000
Total Grants Awarded for 2018			\$150,250

Find frequently asked questions and more information about the NBA Mission and Ministry Grant Program at nbacares.org/grants. The application for 2019 funds will be available later in 2018. For additional questions, please email grants@nbacares.org.



2018 NBA Mission and Ministry Grantees

About the National Benevolent Association

As the health and social services general ministry of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), the National Benevolent Association partners with congregations, regions, general ministries, and a variety of Disciples-related health and social service providers to create communities of compassion and care. Founded in 1887 by six women responding to the needs of the day and on their doorsteps, for 130 years the NBA has continued to serve “the least of these.” For more information, visit nbacares.org.