

2020 Ranney Balch Grant Recommendations

The Ranney-Balch Fund, on behalf of the Metropolitan Urban Work Group, move the following distribution of the for approval by Social Justice Ministry Team. The recommendation still needs to be approved by the Trustees, Planning and Visioning Ministry Team and the Coordinating Cabinet. If approved, the motion to distribute funds would be on the March Presbytery docket.

We received thirteen grant applications and had \$60,300.00 to distribute. After prayerful deliberation and utilization of application rubrics previously established, we recommend the following distribution of Ranney-Balch funds:

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| Southwest Detroit Immigration and Refugee Center | \$ 7,200 |
| A Place of Refuge | \$ 7,200 |
| Fort Street – Open Door | \$ 7,200 |
| First – Warren Day Center | \$ 6,000 |
| Second Mile Center | \$ 6,100 |
| Broadstreet Music Initiative | \$ 6,100 |
| South Oakland Citizens for the Homeless - Welcome Inn | \$ 6,100 |
| Covenant – Southfield Food Pantry | \$ 6,100 |
| Celtic Cross Warming Center | \$ 3,040 |
| First - Birmingham Shop and Drop Program | <u>\$ 5,260</u> |
| | \$60,300 |

The Metropolitan Urban Ministry work group was encouraged by the numerous very worthy ministries that applied for funds. Thank you for this opportunity to be of service to the Presbytery and to the Kingdom.

The 2020 Ranney Balch Grant Proposed Awardees are as follows:

Southwest Detroit Immigrant and Refugee Center provides free and low-cost legal services to those who need them most in the Metro-Detroit area, with a focus on recent immigrants and asylum seekers. There is a critical lack of quality legal services of low-income immigrants, refugees and asylum seekers in Oakland county. These funds in particular will address a critical lack of quality legal services for low-income immigrants, refugees and asylum seekers in Oakland County. The Pontiac Legal Clinic seeks to: 1) Ensure that access to justice is not dependent upon your wealth, race or immigration status; 2) Equip recent immigrants and refugees to navigate U.S. institutions and government agencies; and 3) Assist undocumented peoples in legitimizing their presence in the United States, empowering them to live openly, work legally, and contribute fully to their community.

A Place of Refuge is a collaborative nonprofit organization that provides short term, safe and nurturing shelter to homeless youth who are about to “age out” of foster care or who have aged out. Our youth generally have up to two years to set and work to achieve goals for their future including: education, employment, finances, parenting, healthy living, and work place professionalism. They work in making significant strides toward these goals while preparing for independent living.

Fort Street – Open Door and its supporting partners provide comfort, care, and support services to the homeless and poor people of Detroit by ministering to their physical, spiritual, and social needs in a manner that respects human dignity, and affirms the humanity of all. These funds will at the micro-level provide immediate assistance to Detroit’s homeless and vulnerable populations; and at the macro-level will assist as Open Door collaborates, educates, and engages with multiple partners to understand the complexities of homelessness, building resource networks, and advocating for policies and programs that address some of the underlying issues associated with homelessness.

First – Warren Day Center provides a safe indoor environment for those living on our streets. Their homelessness is compounded by struggles with addiction and mental health issues. The Day Center provides a safe place to get out of the elements, meals and connections to a number of social service providers. It also is a space for human connection as we work hard to foster a sense of community among guest and volunteers.

Second Mile Center whose mission is to empower and strengthen people with the love of Christ while raising disciples to walk with the light of Christ in the Word so that their lives proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. This grant will support the summer program which provides opportunities to initiate and support the faith journey of African-American children and youth from *The Second Mile Center through teaching and connecting with other youth from Churches in the PC USA and other denominations.*

Broadstreet - Community Music Initiative is a program that Broadstreet started in March of last year. The purpose of the program is to show the love of Christ by making Broadstreet more accessible to the community through music. We seek to develop new community relationships, as well as improving existing ones, through the use of outdoor concerts, Jazz Vespers and music lessons. with interested underprivileged youths by providing them with musical instruments, and instrumental musical instructions.

South Oakland Citizens for the Homeless - Welcome Inn Day Center is a seasonal day center for the homeless of south Oakland County housed out of Starr Presbyterian Church in Royal Oak. A program of South Oakland Citizens for the Homeless, the Welcome Inn is open from 7 a.m. – 7 p.m. mid-December through mid-March, during the coldest months of the year. Guests are offered three hot meals, a food pantry, clothing closet, case management assistance, nurses, laundry, showers, hygiene items, spiritual care, and a warm place to take shelter. These funds will assist with our occupancy and transportation costs, the two largest expenditures.

Covenant – Southfield Food Pantry will use this grant with other funding sources to expand their food pantry with the goal of feeding the 12.7% undernourished children attending Southfield Schools, as well as their families. These children are often fed at school but return home to economic situations unable to meet their dietary and nourishment needs. Children who are hungry are not able to concentrate on their school work, and their academic progress is impeded. Feeding them is fundamental to social justice and the teachings of Jesus Christ!

Celtic Cross Warming Center will host the Macomb County Warming Center for the week of April 5-11, 2020 which includes converting the church into a shelter for the week and providing shelter and food for 60 homeless adults. The church will prepare and serve 1,260 meals needed to nourish the guests for the week. Celtic Cross will create an environment free of violence and drugs and be a place of socialization between the 60 guests and the Celtic Cross volunteers nightly. This also provides opportunities for the congregation to perform mission work and share the love and warmth found in our relationship with God.

First - Birmingham Shop and Drop Program *works to alleviate hunger for the students at Alcott Elementary School in Pontiac by providing food for the weekend for 20 families each week. Volunteer shoppers purchase food in the amount of \$220 each week and drop it off at the school where it is distributed by the school social worker and volunteers into the backpacks of 20 children. This church funded program does the following: 1) provides nutritional assistance which will increase the students' ability to focus on school work, 2) ensures that the children receive balanced nutrition over the weekends, 3) reduces household stress by providing balance meals, and 4) helps with overall health of the children and their success in the classroom.*