

## COVID-19 Pandemic Emergency & Short/Long-Term Recovery Grants

PDA has allocated funds from critical reserves for the COVID-19 response. Due to the global and denomination wide impact of the pandemic, funds will be limited and prioritized according to urgency of need.

As with other responses, PDA will look to the mid-council to initiate the request and all approved grants will be sent to the mid-council. The mid-council can then forward the funds to the congregation(s), Presbytery partner(s), or community partner(s) to use the funds as requested. The mid-council will be required to report on the use of the funds within one year of the date that the funds are received.

As with any disaster the needs for resources are both acute and long-term. As most of you know PDA's practice is to respond early and to continue partnerships for the duration of the disaster. This pandemic puts us all in a strange new world, but we are going to begin by trying to engage our response according to our existing practice. Like all of you we are figuring it out as we go and revising constantly. Our intention is to be the best partner we can be as you and your churches address this disaster on the front lines.

The domestic COVID-19 funds will be allocated as follows

- \$1,700,000 for domestic response
  - \$200,000 specifically allocated for refugee and asylum related needs
  - \$1,500,000 for all other domestic needs
- \$1,000,000 for international needs

### Domestic grants

- \$400,000 will be shared for general emergency needs and an additional \$50,000 for emergency needs related to refugees and asylum seekers. Applications can be made with a modified Initial Assistance Grant letter (**ATTACHED**). Grants will be considered according to urgency of need.
  - ◆ We will consider the first round of emergency grants together. If you wish to request a grant please do so by Friday April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020.
  - ◆ We will confirm approvals and amounts by Friday April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020.
  - ◆ An emergency grant request can be in any amount up to \$7,500.
- \$1,100,000 will be shared for short/long-term recovery and an additional \$150,000 for short/long-term needs related to refugees and asylum seekers. Applications can be made with a modified National Recovery Grant Form (**AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST**). Grants will be considered according to urgency of need.

- ◆ Our intent is to begin reviewing short/long-term recovery grants shortly after May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020. An initial round of grant decisions will be made based on all grant requests received by that date.
- ◆ Grants can be submitted in any amount and will be considered until the allocated funds are depleted.

### **Priorities for emergency needs**

- Emergency grants can be used to support congregations, Presbytery partners, and trusted community partners. The following priorities will be used to evaluate the grant requests.
  - ◆ Support activities/programs that address the immediate unmet needs of those at risk due to the impact of COVID-19. The activities/programs might include feeding, housing, and/or access to healthcare.
  - ◆ Those who will benefit from this grant are congregations and/or communities that have historically been marginalized.
  - ◆ To address emergent or unmet needs of refugees, asylum seekers or other vulnerable immigrant populations due to the impact of COVID-19.
  - ◆ Congregations/partners that are at risk of suspending a vital service to vulnerable members of the community.
  - ◆ Programs/initiatives that support the well-being of the faith leaders.

### **Priorities for short/long-term recovery**

- Short/long-term recovery funds can be used to support congregations, Presbytery partners, and trusted community partners. The following priorities will be used to evaluate the grant requests.
  - ◆ Support mid-councils in the most severely impacted states.
  - ◆ Support communities that have been unfairly disadvantaged due to discrimination and/or limited or no access to recovery resources.
  - ◆ Support refugees or asylum seekers who may be negatively impacted due to limited or no access to other recovery resources.
  - ◆ Support for developing new approaches/activities with refugees and asylum seekers due to COVID-19 policies and related constraints.
  - ◆ Support activities/programs that address the underlying systemic and structural forces contributing to the unjust impact of COVID-19 on certain congregations and/or communities.
  - ◆ Support activities/programs that are focused on long-term sustainable solutions and are designed to mitigate the adverse impact of a future event.

Our hope is that additional funds will be donated. As the funds are donated additional grant opportunities will be available.