The Branch Local Missions Grant Application

The Branch is committed to seeing new initiatives that serve our city spring up from its members. In that spirit, we are hoping to award several grants to empower people in our church body to launch new Branch ministries that declare the gospel in both word and deed to our city.

Questions?

Email Jeremy Cook

jeremy@thebranchcorvallis.org

Vision

The Local Missions Grant’s primary purpose is to support members of The Branch who are seeking to launch and lead new strategic, missional ministries that mobilize the body of Christ at The Branch into loving, serving, and prophetically engaging our city and world for the glory of God.

Criteria

Who can apply?

Members of The Branch. If you want more information on how to become a member, please contact Josh Howeth at Josh@thebranchcorvallis.org.

The following criteria can help you determine whether the Local Missions Grant is a good fit for you and your proposal.

* Meet a Need: Local Missions Grants are designated specifically towards the launching of ministries or initiatives that fill a void and meet a real need in our community.
* Local: Grants are designated specifically towards local ministries or initiatives serving our city of Corvallis and the surrounding region. International ministries fall outside the scope and parameters of the grant (excluding international students in Corvallis). If you have an idea for an international ministry or initiative that you believe may tie-in with our global missions, please contact Jeremy Cook. jeremy@thebranchcorvallis.org
* Aligned with our mission: Grants are intended to launch ministries that mobilize our church body to minister to our community with the ultimate aim of making disciples of all nations who are in awe of the gospel, embody the gospel and are giving their lives away because of the gospel. We believe non-profits play an important and strategic role in our city, but the grant addresses a different niche and is not generally intended to go towards the ongoing funding related to startup, staffing, or maintenance of a non-profit.

Metrics

The Local Mission’s Committee will meet to review each grant application on the basis of the following standards. The following are elements of a strong application. Not having all of these does not disqualify the application, but thinking through how your initiative addresses these components will make for a stronger application.

1. Embody the Gospel: How does this ministry initiative help The Branch embody the presence of Christ to our city / community? What is it about who God is, what God does, and what God cares about that makes this initiative significant from a gospel-perspective?
2. Word & Deed: How does this initiative provide opportunity to care for people both physically and spiritually? How do you envision people experiencing the love of Christ because of this initiative in both word and deed, action and articulation, presence and proclamation?
3. Mobilizing the Body of Christ: What opportunities does this ministry initiative provide for followers of Jesus at The Branch (and beyond) to put their faith into action?
4. Strategic: In what ways does this initiative meet a strategic need at this time and place? Are we reinventing the wheel or is someone else already meeting this need sufficiently and well?
5. Specific: Are the goals this initiative will be seeking to address honed so you have a specific focus you can do well with quality rather than being too broad and ambiguous?
6. Sustainable: How many volunteers and what kind of leadership team does this initiative need to work well and be sustainable for the long haul (avoiding burnout)?

Note: Our ministries are volunteer-led and Local Ministry grants are intended to go to capital & operating costs to launch the ministry, not to salary.

Section A: Contact Information

Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Email:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(If additional team members are currently involved with your initiative, please include their contact information as well.)

1. In 200 words or less, please tell us a little bit about yourself.
2. Please describe your involvement with The Branch.

Section B: Vision & Scope of Initiative

1. What is the title, and general idea of the initiative? (please answer in less than 250 words)
2. What specific need and/or problem is being addressed in the initiative? Please describe your journey of discovering this need? (please answer in less than 250 words)
3. How will this initiative meet the identified need and declare the gospel in both word & deed?
4. In the long term, once the initiative is operating at its potential, what will it look like?
5. Is this need currently being met in any way, by a group, individual(s), or government? If no, skip question. If yes, what will your initiative add to the solution? Do you anticipate any partnerships? Have you been in contact with those people currently meeting the need?
6. What geographic location would be served by the initiative?
7. Describe the demographic that would be served by the initiative.

Section C: Initiative Planning

1. When will this initiative start and/or take place?
2. Where will it be held?
3. What are the goals of the initiative?
4. Describe the tasks and timeline of this initiative. What tasks need to be accomplished in the planning, launching, and operating phases? (It may be helpful to look at how similar projects are operated & managed, or if they follow any particular business model.)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Task** | **Person Responsible** ***(If you don't know leave blank)***  | **Due Date** |
|   |   |   |
|   |   |   |
|   |   |   |
|   |   |   |
|   |   |   |
|   |   |   |
|   |   |   |
|   |   |   |
|   |   |   |
|   |   |   |
|   |   |   |
|   |   |   |
|   |   |   |
|   |   |   |
|   |   |   |
|   |   |   |
|   |   |   |
|   |   |   |
|   |   |   |
|   |   |   |

People Power

1. What are the job descriptions/roles that you hope to have in place? (If you have people on your team wanting to serve in these areas, please list their names, as well as your own next to the applicable role.)
2. How do you plan to identify and recruit team members to fill the remaining roles?
3. If you plan on being the only worker in this initiative, do you see this as a permanent solution?

Financial Need

1. What do you need financially to start, launch, and maintain this initiative?
	1. Please use the budget template to list in detail items needed to make this initiative possible. If you would like a budget template to use please email jeremy@thebranchcorvallis.org (This could be anything from rentals to napkins. If you have items that you anticipate will be donated include those below.)

1. List of items you anticipate will be donated:

Section D: Sustainability of Initiative

1. How do you plan to make this initiative sustainable? Do you plan to use other resources to make this venture sustainable?
2. What barriers exist to the success of the initiative? How will you address those barriers?
3. How will the intended effects of the initiative be monitored?
4. Is there any additional information you would like to share with us?