2010 Special Program Grants of Virginia

Special Program Grants to Local Churches/Faith Groups Reaching Out into Communities

Because the mission of the church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world, the Virginia Conference has long seen the need to assist churches which are reaching out into their communities. This year the Common Table, Committee on Ethnic Local Church Concerns, and United Methodist Women have combined their resources, including a designated portion of the Church Extension Apportionment, to assist in this work. A total of $117,500 will be distributed to the mission projects listed below. Take a moment to read about these ministries and discover the ways Virginia United Methodists are reaching out to transform the world in the name of Jesus Christ. For more information about a specific project, or how you can assist, contact the appropriate persons listed below; or call Bev Myers in the conference Director of Connectional Ministries office at (804) 521-1100, ext. 134, or e-mail BevMyers@vaumc.org.

ALEXANDRIA DISTRICT

**Rising Hope UM Mission Church** serves the people of the Route One Corridor. The targeted constituency and membership is particularly marginalized, homeless, low-income, victimized, addiction-ridden population (“the least, the lost, the lonely, and the left-out”) and their children, but is not limited to those individuals. The guiding principles for the vision of Rising Hope are to “love unconditionally, include everyone, and celebrate recovery.” Contact: Deborah Lloyd Allers, 8220 Russell Rd., Alexandria, VA 22309; (703/360-1976); <dallers@risinghopeumc.org>.

ARLINGTON DISTRICT

**Crossroads UMC** was formed to meet the spiritual needs of the Latino Community in Loudon County, to enable people to learn more about God in their own language, so through God’s word they can be transformed and make a difference in their own lives and be living examples of God’s grace. It is building a bridge of integration among the Latino community and within the larger Crossroads community, with its many different cultures. Contact: Flor Norris, 43454 Crossroads Dr., Ashburn, VA 20147; (703/729-5100, ext. 131); <fnorris@e-crossroadsumc.org>.

**Grace Ministries** seeks to engage and empower the low-income immigrant community in northern Virginia through the distribution of food, clothing, school supplies and over-the-counter medications; by providing families with emergency funding for utility bills, rent assistance, medical and pharmacy bills; and providing vocational training in high-demand occupations. Contact: Martha Real, 13600 Frying Pan Rd., Herndon, VA 20171; (703/793-0026); <mreal@florisumc.org>.

ASHLAND DISTRICT

**Lakeside UMC Neighborhood Outreach** is a ministry for neighborhood outreach to a diversified immigrant and low-income community, providing help with not only spiritual needs, but also with other personal and acculturation issues such as Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) concerns, legal and medical assistance, job search assistance, affordable housing and crisis management. Contact: Nancy Robinson, 2333 Hilliard Rd., Richmond, VA 23228; (804/873-1487); <nancyrobin7856@aol.com>.

DANVILLE DISTRICT

**Henry Fork Service Center** provides academic enrichment, mentoring and Christian education for students in the low-income area of Henry Fork/Doe Run in Rocky Mount. With preschool and afterschool programming for K-8 students, it includes nutritional snacks, academic enrichment, Christian education and recreation. Contact: Lisa Nichols, P.O. Box 888, Rocky Mount, VA 24151; (540/483-2819); <henryforkcenter@cs.com>.
EASTERN SHORE DISTRICT

Eastern Shore UMC Hispanic Ministry is a community ministry which assists people in need with food and clothing. Translation services are also provided for people for doctors’ appointments and court dates to assist in their understanding. Contact: Carmen R. Colona, P.O. Box 1158, Wachapreague, VA 23480; (757/787-3332, 757/787-2309); <ccolina@verizon.net>.

NORFOLK DISTRICT

Thalia UMC TGIF Breakfast Club offers breakfast items on Monday and Friday mornings to neighborhood teens on their way to the local high school in an effort to make contact and let them know that they are loved by God. Contact: Cathy Sorrell, 4321 Virginia Beach Blvd., Virginia Beach, VA 23452; (757/340-5015); <ThaliaUMY@yahoo.com>.

PORTSMOUTH DISTRICT

Mission Ministries is a monthly feeding ministry for needy families in the Waverly area. Contact: C. Crockett Morris, 11365 Cerny Lane, Waverly, VA 23890; (804/834-3151; 804/218-1315); <MrGaynell@aol.com>.

RICHMOND DISTRICT

Black Methodists for Church Renewal strengthens the ethnic local churches by training its youth in order to realize the inclusivity of the General Church. Contact: Willard H. Douglas, P.O. Box 26941, Richmond, VA 23261; (804/321-4222); <Douglas546@aol.com>.

Emmaus UMC Ministry for Handicapped and North Korean Refugees provides assistance and encouragement to the handicapped and refugees and their families. Contact: Yunho Eo, Charlie Kang, 7740 Cherokee Rd. Richmond, VA 23225; (804/335-8392, 804/272-5831); <yunhoeo@hotmail.com>, <eumsh@hotmail.com>.

Kids’ Club (Central UMC) provides a safe, fun place for children to learn about Jesus with their friends and neighbors, as well as providing a springboard for other outreaches in the neighborhood such as an Easter egg hunt, Super Bowl party, camping opportunities and Vacation Bible School. Families of participating children desire to be a part of what is happening at Central UMC because of the positive experiences their children are having at Kids’ Club. Contact: Sandy Harmon, 1211 Porter St., Richmond, VA 23224; (804/232-0334 or 804/320-0894); <sandy@wrightdunn.com>.

Sherbourne Food Pantry provides food and spiritually nurtures needy residents and neighbors in the community where the need for food is very apparent. Contact: Sandy Sahnow, 2619 Sherbourne Rd., Richmond, VA 23237; (804/559-0705 or 804/921-2187); <sahnows@comcast.net>.

ROANOKE DISTRICT

Shalom Zone: Grace Ministries is a ministry to the disenfranchised of downtown Roanoke with an emphasis on the recovering community, the immigrant community and marginalized people; it offers help with immigration and Fair Housing law; jail ministries and worship opportunities; and education and nutrition opportunities. Contact: Nancy Dickison, 90 Tinker Mountain Rd., Daleville VA 24083; (540/798-2791); <ndickison@comcast.net>.

UMC Community Outreach Program of Roanoke provides a safe and nurturing environment for children and families in inner-city Roanoke who are in need of resources not available to them through other channels, exposing them to Christian values and teaching. Tutoring, Christian education, enrichment activities and guidance; as well as a clothes closet, school supplies and evening meals are provided. Contact: Deb Keeny, 305 Mountain Ave., SW, Roanoke, VA 24016; (540/324-3103); <domaha@cox.net>.
West End UMC was a declining inner-city church which has chosen to engage its multicultural community with an urban ministries program, with the goal of once again becoming a community church. This initiative includes the church’s youth group, which has greatly increased in size and is ethnically diverse. Contact: David Tanner, 1221 Campbell Ave., Roanoke, VA 24015; (540/344-0206); <dtannerea@aol.com>.

STAUNTON DISTRICT

Casa de Amistad (Basic UMC) provides an after-school tutorial program for 20 to 30 Hispanic children in the Waynesboro area. An adult English as a Second Language (ESL) class is offered as well, with childcare provided. Casa also provides assistance for the basic needs of Hispanic families with medical/dental health care, food, household goods, Thanksgiving baskets and Christmas toys. Contact: Jackie King, P.O. Box 2447 Park Station, Waynesboro, VA 22980; (540/333-0090); <casadeamistad@ntelos.net>.