



Customary for Ministry Partnership Proposals

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Ministry Partnership Proposal Categories

Over the years, the Diocese of Christ Our Hope (DCH) has grown through church planting, church growth, and ministry expansion. We are deeply committed to sacrificial investment of our diocesan resources in Gospel expansion and church planting. Our clergy, diocesan staff, and Diocesan Council collaborate through an ordered process to seek the mind of the Lord together concerning where and how we invest funds for the sake of the Gospel. Our discernment process requires a well-constructed Ministry Partnership Proposal (MPP), and this customary is meant to guide your MPP preparation. If you eventually submit an MPP, keep in mind that we consistently receive more MPPs than we can fund. In the end, the Diocesan Council has to make choices, and we take this charge seriously and prayerfully. We ask you to pray with us as we work together for the Gospel in support of all the churches in the Diocese of Christ our Hope.

There are five primary funding categories for mission, described briefly below.

Church Plant

Church Planting is the creation of a new DCH congregation that has an eye towards these three long term goals. Namely, that the church becomes:

1. Self-governing – the congregation is led internally with a properly selected and confirmed rector in conformity with our diocesan Constitution and Canons, and naturally develops an elected, rotating vestry (leadership council) in conformity with our Constitution and Canons.
2. Self-replicating – the congregation grows toward the capacity and vision to be able to participate actively in planting new Anglican congregations in the Diocese, and / or in expanding Gospel mission, as determined in strategic and prayerful coordination with DCH leaders and clergy, other Anglican entities, etc.
3. Self-sustaining – the congregation is able to fund its basic ministry operations, diocesan tithing, and the Rector's full-time compensation from monies generated internally.

Church Planting Residency

A Church Planting Residency is an in-house residential ministry training program that equips a qualified¹ church planter to plant a church in our Diocese. A residency serves a leader who will spend three years on the staff of a DCH church working within the existing ministries while being trained to plant. Normatively, these three years also provide opportunity for the planting resident to lay the foundations of a new congregation in the DCH.

¹ A church planting residency that the resident has already been qualified through the DCH Church Planter Assessment process, or is actively being assessed and qualified in the earliest stages of his residency. Contact one of the following people if you need more information about the Church Planter Assessment in order to develop an MPP for a Church Planting Residency: Canon Alan Hawkins, Canon Dan Alger, or Canon Ben Bowman.

Curacy

A curacy is a phase of parish-based training of newly (or soon-to-be) ordained deacons and priests. Curacies are a vital means of forming Anglican leaders as future church planters, rectors, and/or associate pastors, and are therefore critical to the mission and expansion of the diocese. Curacies follow diocesan-established standards and expectations and, typically last 3 years. and are focused on healthy, (often) smaller churches in center city, university towns, and suburban settings. At the core of this model is a desire to see curates develop ministry skills as well as a spirituality adequate for the ministry. However, in order to qualify for MPP funding in the Diocese, the applicant church must clearly demonstrate how the curacy will not only expand the pastoral capacity of the church and train the curate, but also expand the mission and outreach of the church.

Mission Program Expansion/Church Growth Project

Mission Program Expansion or Church Growth Projects include the following examples:

- Expanding a particular program for focused mission and outreach (usually through staffing/resourcing), thereby presenting a catalytic option for a congregation to grow through evangelizing and discipling unreached people
- Renovations of facilities, major new equipment, etc. that can be demonstrated to contribute to significantly expanding the evangelistic reach of an existing church.
- Building/Land upfitting.

These funding projects will help kick-start new kinds of ministries that see gospel proclamation, discipleship, and growth of new people within your church. This process must have a sustainability component, as well as a rigorous development of the financial needs through your church to justify that 'above and beyond' funds are needed from the Diocese.

Multi-church Cooperative Mission

At times, vision for large regional mission projects emerges through friendship and collaboration among DCH church leaders -- things like children, youth, or family camps, large-scale outreach events, ongoing collaborative efforts by DCH churches to reach a metropolitan area or region with the Gospel, etc. Multi-church Cooperative Mission initiatives are legitimate possibilities for Ministry Partnership Proposals. However, keep in mind the following:

- Before submitting this type of MPP, it is necessary to actually have a vision for such a project and to have multiple churches / leaders committed to working together in genuine partnership to fulfill this vision.
- This type of MPP must have demonstrable impact on either reaching new people for Christ or building disciples in ways that are beyond the normal capacity of a particular local church.

MPP Timeline and Deadlines

In order to properly evaluate and discern funding opportunities, all MPP applications must adhere to the following timeline and deadlines. Unfortunately, we are not able to consider opportunities received after these dates.

All documentation is to be submitted electronically to Canon Ben Bowman: bbowman@adhope.org.

December 1:

MPP Application and Instructions released.

January 15, 2021: All applications due (by Deaneries/Deaneries-in-formation)

While updates will be permitted, a first draft of the MPP must be submitted to Canon Ben Bowman.

Deanery Gatherings Verbal Presentations (January - March)

All MPP applications will be shared with Rectors in your Deanery one week prior to your respective Deanery Gathering. At the Deanery Gathering you will be asked to present your proposal to the group to solicit feedback. Applications that are not presented at the Deanery Gathering will not be considered further.

March 31, 2021: Final submission of MPPs are due.

Incorporating feedback from the Deanery Gathering and/or Diocesan Council and Staff, all final applications are due to Canon Ben Bowman on this date. In April, May, and June, members of the Diocesan Council may be in touch with you to gather more information about your proposal.

June 30, 2021: Diocesan Council makes final decisions on funding.

July 30, 2021: All MPP submitters are notified.

If you have any questions, please contact Canon Alan Hawkins (alan@redeemergso.org, 336.404.2387), or Canon Ben Bowman (bbowman@adhope.org, 919.619.3711).