

**Southern Ohio Synod
Hunger Task Force Report
2020**

The Southern Ohio Synod Hunger Task Force has devoted much of its time over the last year to supporting the ELCA World Hunger Domestic Grant Program on this mission territory. Under this revamped program, the Task Force is charged with meeting with each applicant ministry in order to more thoughtfully serve as the first stage of the grant review process. The Task Force strives to remain in continuing relationship with each applicant ministry throughout the grant process.

We are delighted to announce that two Southern Ohio ministries, Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, Cincinnati and Tikkun Farm, Mt. Healthy, received Domestic Hunger Grants for 2020-22. Two other ministries, St. Philip Lutheran Church, Columbus and Zion Lutheran Church, Hamilton were chosen to participate in a pilot project, Daily Bread Hunger Grants, which awards \$500 matching grants to assist ministries in leveraging the power of social media for fundraising. We are delighted for all of these ministries.

That pilot project was so successful that Daily Bread Hunger Grants were offered again this year, with their rollout moved up to early April 2020 to allow congregations to take advantage of them as they respond to local COVID19 needs. Four of our congregations have already been awarded Daily Bread Hunger Grants this year: Abiding Christ Lutheran, Fairborn; African International Lutheran Mission, Columbus; Bethel Lutheran, Grove City; and Lebanon Lutheran, Junction City. The Task Force highly recommends that congregations watch for and take advantage of this new program in the future. Daily Bread Hunger Grants are open only to Lutheran congregations, and, by learning how to leverage the power of social media, congregations can raise much more than the \$500 they need to raise to earn the full matching grant. In the process, they also add an important skill to their fund-raising tool kit.

The 2021 ELCA World Hunger Domestic Hunger Grant application deadline was extended to June 1. The Task Force will be visiting grant applicants this summer and reconvening in September to complete the first stage of the review process.

The Hunger Task Force wants to take this opportunity to thank its out-going chair, Michelle Riesbeck, for her faithful leadership over these last several years.

If you are passionate about hunger ministries, the Task Force invites you to join us! Simply reach out to Pastor Katie Kerrigan, our Synod Staff liaison, to be added to the Task Force mailing list, and join us at any meeting.

The Southern Ohio Synod Hunger Task Force

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