



Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church

2017-2018 Ministry Partners

As a faith community, we strive to follow Jesus' example of radical love and hospitality. We are grateful to share resources and build relationship with partners who live into these teachings in our community and world.



♥ Indicates a newly-funded Mission Partner



♥ **Asheville City Schools Foundation:** Implements bold strategies, funds big ideas and engages the community to increase excellence with equity for all children in our schools. *Funds will provide stipends to community leaders of color to act as service providers and mentors in the IRL (In Real Life) afterschool clubs.*



♥ **Asheville Poverty Initiative:** Fosters relationships among people of all economic means, thereby building community through the Poverty Scholars Program and 12 Baskets Café. *Funds will support the launch of a job training component of the 12 Baskets Café.*



♥ **Asheville Writers in the Schools and Community:** Provides innovative arts and creative writing opportunities to children, teens and families in Asheville. Programs include Word on the Street/La Voz de los Jóvenes, Family Voices and Artist Mentor Residencies. *Funds will support building equitable processes within the staff and board.*



♥ **Asheville Youth Mission:** Plans and leads day, weekend and week-long mission immersion experiences with middle-school and high-school youth. *Grant funds will support a summer intern position.*



♥ **BeLoved Asheville:** Builds community to embody and create justice, equity and love. *Funds will support initiatives like Homeless Voice, Rise Up Artist Studio, Street Medics Team, Root Down Housing, Food Sovereignty/Justice, and Computer Lab/Internet Lounge.*



♥ **Bountiful Cities:** The Asheville Buncombe Community Garden Network facilitates resource sharing (increasing community capacity, a tool library, seed saving and volunteers) and garden education. *Funds will support needs of 35 gardens within the network.*



Center for Participatory Change: Creates spaces for learning, healing and relationship building through Popular Education, Language Justice, Racial Equity and Sustainability Circles. *Funds will support CPC's Racial Equity Circle's "Black Love" project.*



CoThinkk: A giving circle that addresses education, economic mobility/opportunity and leadership development towards impacting some of the most critical social issues facing African American and Latino communities. *Funds will support ongoing capacity building and provide a pilot leadership development program for leaders of color.*



Creation Care Alliance of WNC: Ecumenical network which strives to be a voice for God's creation and neighbors harmed by environmental injustices, and to bring practical and hopeful solutions through education, service and advocacy. *Funds will support youth ministry leadership, youth Creation Care events, and Social Opportunities for Intentional Living (SOIL) Conference.*



Creative Peacemakers: Offers an afterschool program at no cost to students living in the Deaverview Apartment Community/Johnston Elementary School, working to bring peace to these communities by helping children practice peacemaking through cooperative play and creative expression. *Funds will purchase art supplies and educational materials.*



Food Connection: Connects freshly prepared surplus meals from restaurants, caterers and institutions in the Asheville area to nonprofits who feed the hungry. *Funds will support purchasing a refrigerated van to transport fresh food directly to the food deserts around Asheville.*



Gentle Mothering/Cuidados Maternales: A multicultural, family-care and educational services nonprofit that runs programs specifically designed to serve Hispanic women. *Funds will be used to host a birth doula training, which will support Spanish-speaking women in finding a career for which they have a passion while also supporting underserved pregnant women in the area who lack access to a Spanish-speaking doula.*



Green Opportunities: Offers specialized, technical training for individuals living in low-wealth neighborhoods as well as case management support to remove existing barriers to employment and providing access to sustainable employment opportunities. *Funds will be used to support professional training and development.*



Guatemala Mission: Covenant partnership between GCPC and Iglesia Jerusalem Presbyterian Church in Coatepeque, Guatemala begun in 1994. *Grant funds provide 35 scholarships to students who attend schools in the Coatepeque area.*



Habitat for Humanity: Works to build homes with families, volunteers and community members, and to envision a world where everyone has a decent place to live. *Funds will support the 26th Presbyterian/Methodist Home Build.*



Hands & Feet: Year-long progressive, ecumenical Christian service program for young adults to pursue their passions, serve others, live in intentional community and explore faith. *Funds will support housing and stipend costs.*



Haywood Street Congregation: A transformative open community of Christ, led by the Holy Spirit, creating opportunities to serve and be served so that each person is empowered to claim their identity as a child of God. *Funds will support the Companion Ministry.*



Healing Art Missions: Supports the people of Haiti in the areas of health, nutrition, education, housing and social justice. *Funds will support paying living wages to Haitian staff.*



Heart of Horse Sense: Provides free therapeutic horsemanship, including equine-assisted psychotherapy and learning, for veterans, their families, and at-risk youth. *Funds will provide intensive equine therapy retreats for veterans suffering from Military Sexual Trauma and LGBTQ veterans.*



Homeward Bound A-Hope Day Center: A welcoming, safe place where individuals and families experiencing homelessness come to receive basic needs services and to engage in the local Coordinate Assessment System in order to end their homelessness with housing. *Funds will support operations.*



Homeward Bound Room In The Inn (RITI): In partnership with 60 faith communities, provides shelter to 12 women who (for a variety of reasons) cannot stay at a shelter by hosting them for a week at a time on a rotating basis and providing all of their meals, shelter, and evening activities. *Grants funds support hosting RITI at Grace Covenant.*



Hood Huggers: Offers strategies for building support pillars for historically African American neighborhoods, providing a framework for community capacity-building while increasing the effectiveness of existing service programs. *Funds support STRIDE and Burton Street Community Gardens.*



JMPROTV: A social platform that keeps the Hispanic community informed and connected to opportunities within the WNC community. *Funds will support expanded services and training.*



Johnson C. Smith Seminary: The only historically Black theological seminary of the Presbyterian Church (USA). *Funds support ongoing work.*



Latino Advocacy Coalition: Creates a more inclusive community for Latinxs by providing unique services, developing grassroots leaders and working together to access community resources. *Funds will support a Spanish Language High School Equivalency Program in Buncombe County.*



Nuestro Centro: A community center in the Emma Community of Buncombe County which listens to directly affected people in order to identify root causes of problems in the community, organizes to confront problems, and seeks justice while strengthening identity and culture. *Funds will support the Nuestras Escuelas organizing campaign, focusing on creating a pilot model toward racial equity at Emma Elementary.*



Mark & Jenny Bent/Hare's Mission Work in the Dominican Republic and Haiti: Mark and Jenny work with sugarcane communities to help health clinics train health-care leaders, and in the DR and Haiti work with small family farmers to improve food production from their gardens. *Grant funds will purchase a new vehicle.*



Partnership for Pastoral Counseling: Offers affordable pastoral counseling to people in Western North Carolina to empower healing and growth. *Grant funds cover the cost of counseling sessions.*



Pisgah Legal Services: Pursues justice by providing legal assistance and advocacy to help low-income people in Western North Carolina meet their basic needs and improve their lives. *Funds will support providing free legal aid.*



Read to Succeed Asheville: Works with public schools to narrow the achievement gap between middle-class students and those from low-income/low-literacy homes. *Funds will be used to increase training capacity.*



Residents' Council of Asheville Housing Authority: Led by committed, dedicated and engaged members of the public housing community, serves as the primary vehicle for helping residents improve their economic, educational, social, employment and entrepreneurial status as a means of moving out of poverty. *Funds will support capacity building and training of leaders in the Residents' Council.*



♥ **Serve to LEAD:** Unites young people from different social and cultural backgrounds around a common vision to serve their local and global community to reduce poverty: spiritually, socially, and materially. *Funds will support the Global Engagement Scholarship fund.*

♥ **SOS: What They Don't Teach You:** Builds connections to high-income career pathways and high-wealth strategic tactics for long-term generational legacy building. *Funds will support trainings about investment opportunity gaps in the area, wealth educational resources, and mentorships.*



♥ **Steady Collective:** Dedicated to promoting the wellness of people who use drugs through empowerment and respectful collaboration. Its goal is to improve overall community health by reducing the rate of drug overdose and the spread of infectious disease with education, advocacy and direct services. *Funds will purchase 14,500 clean needles and 100 wound/abscess care kits for participants.*



T.H.E. Center for Disordered Eating: Provides support and resources to those affected by eating disorders. *Grants funds support general operations.*



♥ **Veterans Restoration Quarters/ABCCM:** Cooks and serves residents a meal; an average of 200 veterans is served. Volunteers join the VRQ residents at their table, eating and talking together.



♥ **Western North Carolina Sanctuary Movement:** Fosters an intersectional culture of sanctuary that offers mutual safety and support for all affected people from the Latinx, African American, Muslim, and LGBTQ communities, and others experiencing poverty and/or oppression. *Funds will provide legal support for families affected by the current broken immigration system; meet the basic needs family members when the primary earner is detained or otherwise affected by the immigration system; support transportation expenses to visit detained family members; and childcare and interpretation services to support the efforts of all six program areas.*



WNC Workers' Center: Builds power among low-wage immigrant workers through organizing and education to resolve issues of labor rights and promote fair working conditions in Western North Carolina. *Funds will support the Mujeres Luchadoras Program, sustaining the significant impact the program has had in building individual and collective capacity for marginalized immigrant women workers in Asheville.*

Working Wheels

Transforming donated cars into working wheels for working families

Working Wheels: Repairs and recycles donated cars, transforming them into working wheels for working families. *Grant funds cover the expenses for cars.*



YTL Training Programs: Equips minority teens with the skills needed to be successful in all walks of life. *Funds will support G.R.A.C.E. for Teens advocacy program and afterschool program.*

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