

ECW Recognition Grant 2023

History of the ECW Recognition Grant

The Board of Directors of the Episcopal Church Women (ECW), Diocese of Chicago established the ECW Recognition Grant in 2011 to recognize the ongoing outreach efforts of the women of our Diocese. The Board of Directors believed strongly that women's organizations provided useful and important work in our parishes and missions, in our communities, and across the world. Since its inception, the Board has expanded our giving to honor such organizations with one-time \$500 grants to continue their efforts. These grants, funded by and administered by ECW, confirmed our mission of being "united in Christ and led by the Holy Spirit to recognize, understand and respond to the needs of all in an atmosphere of healing, fellowship and love."

Program Guidelines

Grant Description

The Board is committed to supporting and promoting programs which reflect the interests and concerns of the Diocese. The Board also supports initiatives from The Episcopal Church, General Convention and National ECW, as well as religious, educational and missionary work. The Recognition Grant specifically addresses outreach initiatives of congregational organizations, and may be applied for (and received) no more than once every two years. The grant, which may be up to \$1,000, is given in support of a congregation's outreach program.

The applicant's program must address at least one of the following areas of interest (the tenets of the Episcopal Church Women, Diocese of Chicago):

- a. Faith
- b. Fellowship
- c. Education
- d. Service

Criteria for Eligibility

Applicants must be a congregational organization supporting outreach initiatives of a parish/mission in the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago.

Eligible Activities

Applicants may have an ongoing outreach ministry which they wish to expand or plans to initiate one. We seek programs which reach into the community, the nation or the world. The importance of the program is not based on the size of the organization, nor on the number of target beneficiaries. We support programs which express our Episcopal faith, as well as provide fellowship, education and/or service. Programs may include, but are not limited to: after school assistance, food programs, outreach to underserved groups, outreach through any of the Episcopal Charities' partner agencies or other international organizations supported by The Episcopal Church. Fund-raising campaigns and one-time events are not eligible for this grant.

Past recipients have participated in the Blessings in a Backpack program; programs to support Burmese immigrants in their community; supplying goods and/or volunteers to local women's shelters; and collecting donations of personal care items for individuals who are homeless. These are examples of ongoing programs of value to the community.

Selection Process

The deadline for submission of applications is Friday, October 6, 2023. Applications will be reviewed and ranked by the Grants Committee, which is comprised of members of the current Board of Directors, including a member of the Finance Committee, as well as interested ECW members. The grants will be awarded on the basis of ranking, and recipients will be notified prior to the Diocesan Convention, when the formal announcement will be made. Grant funds will be dispersed by Friday, December 29, 2023.

Project Application and Submittal

Applications may be filed electronically at: outreach@ecwchicago.org. Please use either Word or PDF format for the application and supporting documentation.

Applications along with supporting documentation may also be submitted to:

Episcopal Church Women, Diocese of Chicago
ECW Recognition Grant Program
St. James Commons
65 East Huron Street
Chicago, Illinois 60611

(For print applications please number the pages, print only on one side, and do not staple the pages together.)

Applications must be received by midnight, Friday, October 6, 2023 (whether submitted electronically or by U.S. Post Office).

The ECW Recognition Grant

To recognize the ongoing outreach efforts of congregations in the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago

Application Form

Applicant Group Name _____

Contact/Director _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Email address _____

Parish/Mission _____

City _____ Deanery _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Clergy Contact _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Criteria for Eligibility

Applicants must be a congregational organization supporting outreach initiatives of a parish/mission in the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago.

Required Information

Project Scope and Purpose: Prepare a written statement (300 words or less) describing the purpose for your project and the method of implementation. Be sure to address the following points:

- How your program benefits your target community.
- How your program benefits your parish/mission (community-building, raising awareness of the congregation within the community, etc.).
- What are your plans to publicize the success of the program (including photos) within the ECW and the Diocese.

Project Cost Estimate: Submit an estimate of the annual cost of your project and where the funds from the grant would be directed.

Time Line: Description of a typical year's service

Other Information: What other information can you supply, such as photographs, drawings, letters of support, etc., to help the Grant Committee understand the program?

Completed applications are due on or before midnight, Friday, October 7, 2022.

Email to:

outreach@ecwchicago.org

Mail to:

Episcopal Church Women, Diocese of Chicago
ECW Recognition Grant Program
St. James Commons
65 East Huron Street
Chicago, Illinois 60611