



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

LUTHERAN SERVICES FOR CHILDREN ENDOWMENT

and

LUTHERAN SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY ENDOWMENT

Request For Proposals



LUTHERAN SERVICES FOR THE ELDERLY ENDOWMENT

Background and Mission

Lutheran Services for the Elderly (LSE) has a long history of dedicated and creative ministry on behalf of the elderly. The program began in 1962 with the purchase of the Miami Springs facility, which became known as Fair Havens Center (FHC). Dr. John Harvey Kellogg of Battle Creek, Michigan, had created a south Florida version of his world-renowned Battle Creek Sanitarium. The historic Pueblo Hotel, a beautiful southwest structure, was expanded to accommodate care for the frail elderly. It became the primary focus of ministry for LSE/FHC for the better part of four decades.

At the turn of the millennium FHC decided to seek new ways to expand its ministry both programmatically and geographically. To that end, FHC was sold and a planning strategy was begun with representatives from the church at large. The envisioned services of LSE for the future are encoded in its past. LSE, through the good offices of FHC, has offered a traditional range of services in its setting and has been noted for further expanding the scope of holistic and creative services to its elderly clientele.

The new role for LSE is to catalyze the development of new methods of ministry primarily for and by older persons. Program proposals will be solicited from ELCA-related entities. The proposing entity will need to demonstrate how the proposed project holds promise for impacting larger and larger constituencies in the future. The model must be well defined, replicable, and available to other agencies. The original provider needs to define its role in prompting and providing consultation to other partners.

LUTHERAN SERVICES FOR CHILDREN ENDOWMENT

Background and Mission

The Olaf A. Berge & Thilda Randine Berge Fund and The Sylvan L. Rembold Fund

Both the Berge and Rembold Funds, established within the permanent endowments of the ELCA Foundation, are dedicated by their donors to services and ministries with children as provided by programs of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

ELCA FUTURECHURCH GOALS AND SERVICE AND JUSTICE PRIORITIES

In late 2020, the ELCA Churchwide Organization prioritized, during the drafting of its reorganization goals, the vision to engage one million newer, younger, and more diverse people. ELCA-affiliated ministries have a broad reach into their communities and are uniquely positioned to serve and continue engaging new, young, and diverse populations.

“...This church has the potential to “activate each of us so more people might know the way of Jesus and discover community, justice and love,” in response to the good news of the Gospel. ...Three ... goals continue to be relevant for the future church efforts:

1. A Welcoming Church: Engaging new, young, and diverse people
2. A Thriving Church: Rooted in tradition and radically relevant
3. A Connected, Sustainable Church: Raising the bar – together.”

The ELCA Service and Justice Home Area has also identified priorities that set the focus of all of our work, using the acronym MERGE: **M**igration, **E**conomic, **R**acial, **G**ender, and **E**nvironmental Justice.

Migration Justice:

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America teaches that “hospitality for the uprooted is a way to live out the biblical call to love the neighbor in response to God’s love in Jesus Christ” (ELCA social message “Immigration,” p. 3). Migration justice is an expression of that neighborly love through accompaniment of newcomers — regardless of their race, religion or place of birth — that interrogates injustice and oppression and seeks to expand the capacity to relate to the stranger. With a long history of showing hospitality to migrants and refugees, the ELCA advocates for just immigration policies, repudiating appeals rooted in hostility, racism, prejudice, indifference and simplistic solutions, and acknowledging the complexity of issues, diversity of interests, and partial and relative justice of laws at work in contemporary migration (p. 7). Human rights, dignity, safe and sustainable livelihood, and racial and gender justice are key intersecting principles in meeting the challenges and heeding the opportunities of global migration. Crucial to all this is the presence of newcomers who “provide our church with the experience and knowledge to take part in the public deliberation on immigration, refugee, and asylum policies” (p. 6).

Economic Justice:

A just economy serves the common good and human dignity by (a) empowering all people to make meaningful decisions about their economic lives; (b) protecting the rights of workers to organize, be protected from harm and be treated with dignity; (c) distributing risks and benefits fairly; and (d) ensuring that all people — especially vulnerable neighbors — are able to meet their basic needs.

Racial Justice:

Racial Justice Ministries of the ELCA serves as a catalyst and bridge builder committed to the work of:

- Equipping leaders to recognize and understand the complexity and implications of racism and racial issues.
- Training leaders in anti-racism and racial justice in partnership with synods, congregations, associations and social service agencies.
- Building alliances and strategies across race, ethnicity, class, gender, age and sexual orientation to break through barriers of racism and oppression.
- Creating and supporting ecumenical networks that call for and help equip the church to be a multiracial, multicultural community.
- Working together throughout the church in programs, policies and public witness that advance racial justice — locally and globally.
- Developing educational tools and training models and sharing them with congregations who face the challenges of racism in a diverse, complex and changing world.

When we confront racism and move toward fairness and justice in the church and society, we all benefit. Each of us has a unique story, and we are all part of the larger, richer story of the ELCA.

Gender Justice:

The ELCA teaches that “God desires fullness of life and equity for everyone” (ELCA social statement Faith, Sexism, and Justice, p. 3). Gender justice is a form of neighbor love to which everyone is called; it is urgent for people who experience oppression based on sex or gender, particularly people who identify as women, girls and/or LGBTQIA+. “Gender justice is expressed through equality and balanced power relations for people of all genders to live into their individual callings” (p. 76). Efforts to create and foster gender justice must always take into account how it intersects with other forms of oppression such as racism (p. 3). Gender justice is advanced through the principles of sufficiency, sustainability, solidarity and participation. “Social and religious structures and institutions — including ideas, beliefs, religious teachings, laws, policies, practices, and language — must be assessed and should be guided by these principles” (p. 7).

Environmental Justice:

Justice in environmental relationships means honoring the integrity of creation and striving for fairness within the human family. When we act interdependently and in solidarity with creation, we do justice. We serve and keep the earth, trusting that its bounty can be sufficient and sustainable for all. The principles underlying environmental justice are:

- Participation. Those most affected by a decision are entitled to be heard and to have their interests considered.
- Solidarity. We stand together as God’s creation.
- Sufficiency. We must meet the basic needs of all humanity and all creation.
- Sustainability: We must provide an acceptable quality of life for present generations without compromising that of future generations.

Remaining rooted in our Lutheran heritage and tradition, while combining the FutureChurch goals with Service and Justice priorities, gives us clear foci from which we will base our granting processes.

PROGRAMMATIC FOCUS

The purpose of the endowments shall be to enable and support programs of service and justice for our communities, especially in areas related to elderly persons, children, and their families.

- Eligible partners will normally be ELCA-related ministries. Occasionally support may be given to other Lutheran organizations or non-Lutheran organizations, preferably involving Lutheran organizations or individuals in planning or implementation. Lutheran organizations are defined as being any of the following: affiliated social ministry organizations (SMOs), colleges/universities/seminaries, and outdoor ministries.
- Priority funding shall be for programs that align with the above foci and:
 - programs of service and/or education to benefit the elderly and their families, and
 - programs of service and/or education to benefit children.
 - funding is available to Lutheran organizations (as defined above) who have not received funding in the last cycle (2019-2021). While programs that are currently not being funded will be prioritized, an exception may be made for organizations funded in the last cycle.
- Programs to be funded will be innovative, relevant to current needs and replicable. They should be targeting the main drivers of inequities and challenges in their communities and should be building on the most successful models of innovative service delivery.
- Covid-19 is now a known and likely recurring challenge; proposals should build in innovations, modifications, and adaptations for complications related to Covid-19.
- Requests for seed monies for initial development, pilot tests, delivery of services, programs, and resources normally will be funded for no more than three years.
- Funding has historically been available for up to:
 - \$75,000 total for 3-year grant request, with annually declining amounts.
 - However, these amounts and timeframes may vary according to the scope and goals of the proposal.
- Programs may support development of organizations and/or programs where new populations are to be served or where populations are underserved.
- Proposals need to reflect funding and/or other leveraged resources, including volunteers, to accomplish project goals.



PROGRAMMATIC IDEAS FOR CONSIDERATION

Elderly Endowment

The goal of the endowment shall be to provide seed monies for programs that represent the most successful models for innovative service delivery. The following three sections contain examples of program areas that may be useful in preparing proposals for Lutheran Services for Elderly Endowment (LSEE):

A. Examples of Services for the Elderly

1. Intergenerational programs in congregations' communities, or institutional settings.
2. Programs promoting senior independence.
3. Enablement of congregational ministry groups that focus on aging issues and/or programs serving elders in their congregations that can be replicated widely.
4. Programs and services that meet particular situations confronting special populations with culturally specific, elderly-related services, e.g. migrants, refugees, ethnic specific.
5. Consciousness-raising programs regarding all aspects of aging, using electronic media resources and educational programs.
6. Care management on behalf of a distant family.
7. Programs that link local resources with international partners to benefit aging persons in global south communities.
8. Education, research and/or advocacy programs that deal with specific new areas of interest about aging and needs of aging persons and their families.

B. Examples of Services by the Elderly

The endowment seeks to enable the exploding elderly population to be both clients and agents of further service growth and fund development.

The following examples of program areas may be useful in preparing proposals:

1. Programs that maximize elders' life experience, share wisdom, and tap expertise to benefit individuals, congregations, and communities.
2. Programs that help the elderly discover and enable meaningful vocations in their new circumstances.
3. Intergenerational programs in congregations, communities, and/or institutional settings.
4. Programs promoting senior independence.
5. Racial equity organizing led by seniors from a particular ethnic group.
6. Any of the concepts in Section A that would be planned and implemented by elderly persons.

C. Conferences

LSEE is committed to the development of innovative programs, as is apparent in its basic grants program. It is also interested in supporting groups to explore ways to respond to new opportunities. Conference proposals may originate from LSE or other Lutheran or related groups that will focus on issues of aging persons. Conferences should include a hybrid or virtual option to accommodate pandemic and disability needs.

Children's Endowment

The goal of the endowment shall be to provide seed monies for programs that represent the most successful model(s) for innovative service delivery.

The following two sections contain examples of program areas that may be useful in preparing proposals for Lutheran Services for Children Endowment (LSCE):

A. Examples of Services FOR Children

1. Proactive projects for prevention that may focus on such areas as wellness and nutrition, dependency, trauma, loss, as one or more may affect youth.
2. Inter-generational programs in congregations, communities, and/or institutional settings.
3. Racial equity programming in congregations, communities, and/or institutional settings that focus on educating, organizing, and empowering youth.
4. Enablement of congregational ministry groups that focus on issues confronting children and youth and/or programs providing new opportunities for children and youth to be involved in their congregations that can be replicated widely.
5. Programs and services that meet particular situations confronting special populations with culturally specific, children-related services, e.g. migrants, refugees, ethnic specific.
6. Educational programs that may enhance school experiences for children and youth in community and/or congregational settings, such as tutoring, mentoring, afterschool access to technological aids not available in their home setting.

B. Conferences

LSCE is committed to the development of innovative programs as is apparent in its basic grants program. It is also interested in supporting groups to explore ways to respond to new opportunities. Conference proposals may originate from LSCE or other Lutheran or related groups that will focus on issues of children and youth. Conferences should include a hybrid or virtual option to accommodate pandemic and disability needs.

APPLICATION AND TIMELINE

Registration

Start Date: September 30, 2022

End Date: December 15, 2022

Proposal

Start Date: September 30, 2022

End Date: December 31, 2022

Notification of Decision:

January/February 2023

Funding Allocation Start:

February/March 2023

Application Process

Step One:

You can log-in or register for EGM at [ELCA GrantMaker \(fluxx.io\)](https://fluxx.io)

You will want to select "Endowment Grants" under Theme 8.

Note: If you registered in EGM previously and still have your password, please do not register again. If you cannot remember your password, please go to EGM and enter your email address and request a new password. If you are new to EGM and need assistance with registering, please use the guide at <https://elca.org/Resources/Grants> and contact us with any questions.

Step Two:

Submit a formal application. A review will be conducted and, if necessary, further information may be requested. Notification of decision will be sent by February 2023. Leaders of programs selected for funding may be invited to make a presentation at an annual Lutheran Services in America Conference.

Step Three:

LSCE/LSEE Endowments will establish with grantees the monitoring and project report process during the project and the criteria for the full report upon completion. A variety of reporting formats may be considered, and proposals for reporting processes that promote mutual sharing of learnings with other ELCA ministries are encouraged. Lutheran Services in America and the ELCA Building Resilient Communities, Service & Justice unit will publicize lists of programs granted funds and will catalog final reports for dissemination of models to approved parties.

PROPOSAL GUIDELINES AND FORMAT FOR FORMAL APPLICATION

1. Organization Information:

- History, purpose, and relationship to the ELCA.

2. Program Proposal. Provide a description of each:

- description of proposed clientele
- description of needs to be addressed, with supporting details of relevant research, statistical data, and narrative
- what makes this project innovative and/or relevant to current needs with this population
- plans for adaptation related to ongoing or recurring Covid-19 challenges
- how the project aligns with the priorities of FutureChurch and MERGE
- expected outcomes and criteria for evaluating outcomes
- numbers of persons required to deliver this program, paid and volunteer personnel
- partnerships with other agencies and/or community groups
- plans for continuation of the project after the startup phase
- plans for replication

3. Program Goals and Timeline:

- Overall goals and short-term objectives
- Actions to be taken to achieve goals
- Timelines for each phase

4. Budget:

Submit a budget with enough detail to support the proposed activities during the entire proposed life of the project under consideration. Include all sources of funding and the attendant staff and administrative costs to deliver the project. The budget should also include a plan for ensuring that the project will be able to continue beyond the period funded by such a grant.

5. Statement of intent for crediting support from the Endowment:

For Example, "The Lutheran Home Corporation acknowledges support from the LSCE/LSEE Endowment in its newsletter, website, annual report, and in all other notations about our program."

6. At least two letters of support, at least one representing a church partner. It is recommended that one represents a program participant if program already exists.

7. **Copy of Certificate of Federal Income Tax Exemption (501©3).**
8. **Include up-to-date banking information. This must be completed in EGM at time of submission; please see guide for instructions.**
9. **Additional materials not necessary.**



CONTACTS

For further information on submitting a proposal, please contact:

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Lutheran Services for Children and Lutheran Services for the Elderly Endowment in conjunction with:

Building Resilient Communities, Service & Justice unit

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