



COLLABORATION FOR MINISTRY INITIATIVE— SOUTH CAROLINA

Grant Information For Ministries of Women Religious in South Carolina

Background and General Information

The Sisters of Charity Foundation of South Carolina is a faith-based organization deeply rooted in the principles of the Gospel and the traditions of the Catholic Church. The Foundation addresses the needs of the poor and underserved through research, collaboration and a variety of grantmaking programs.

Since its inception, the Foundation, a ministry of the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine, has exhibited an interest in supporting women religious in their efforts with the poor and underserved members of society.

A 2001 study by the Sisters of Charity Foundation of Cleveland, in Ohio, which focused on the ministries of women religious in Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee (Leadership Conference of Women Religious Region VI) and South Carolina identified a number of challenges:

- † The aging and steady decline in the number of religious available to carry on the ministries is strongly impacting these works.
- † Resources are decreasing as religious seek to sustain critically needed ministries, transition ministries to others appropriately and effectively and determine new ways to use their individual and collective resources to meet the needs of the times.
- † The congregations face decisions regarding their ministries that will significantly impact the populations they serve, now and in the future.

The study also found that opportunity to effectively engage these issues exists through collaboration; the concept of collaboration was consistently identified by women religious as essential to ministries today. As a result of the study, grantmaking for collaborative efforts began at Sisters of Charity Foundation of Cleveland in 2002. In 2003, the Sisters of Charity Ministry Foundation of Cincinnati, Ohio, offered its support. The two Foundations formed a partnership, the Collaboration for Ministry Initiative (CMI), to advance the premise that ministry sustainability may be enhanced through collaboration. The Sisters of Charity Foundation of South Carolina is proud to partner with Sisters of Charity Foundation of Cleveland in this initiative designed to assist the ministries of women religious in South Carolina.

Collaboration for Ministry (CMI) Grants

There are three types of CMI grants: Planning, Implementation and Direct Service grants. These are discussed in more detail on the back side of this page.

Grant Requirements

Potential applicants should review the mission and focus of the Sisters of Charity Foundation of South Carolina. If there seems to be a suitable match, the applicant should complete the appropriate CMI Grant Application online. Visit www.sistersofcharitysc.com, select "Grants," select "Type of Grants" from the drop down menu and then select "Collaboration for Ministry Grant."

Decision Process

A Committee of the Board of Trustees will make funding recommendations to the full Board of Trustees for final approval. Applicants will be notified in September of the Collaboration for Ministry Initiative Grant Awards.

Collaboration for Ministry Initiative (CMI) Grants

Planning Grants

One of the objectives of the Collaboration for Ministry Initiative Grants is to provide funding for women religious in order to conduct strategic planning for the future of the ministries in South Carolina. This planning could include but is not limited to leadership formation, resource development, collaborative opportunities, capacity building, succession planning and addressing new/emerging needs. CMI planning grants are awarded in amounts up to \$5,000 for a planning period of six to nine months.

Implementation Grants

A second objective of CMI Grants is to provide for the ongoing development of successful strategic planning efforts. Therefore, 2008 planning grant recipients who have submitted an approved final grant report documenting a viable plan for moving forward, may apply for an Implementation Grant in 2009. Implementation Grants are awarded in amounts up to \$15,000 for a one year period. Past recipients who meet grant criteria are eligible to reapply this year.

Direct Services Grants

Additionally, in order to help support other ongoing efforts of women religious ministering to those in need, the CMI will offer smaller Direct Service Grants. These grants are intended to assist ministries in providing for the basic needs of clients either directly (eg: food, clothing, etc.) or through operational enhancement (eg: computer purchase, etc.). Direct Service Grants are awarded in amounts up to \$2,500 for a one year period.

Invited Proposals

On occasion, the Foundation may invite a proposal for development of a ministry initiative with potential for systemic impact in keeping with CMI vision and goals.

Grant Eligibility and Limitations

Eligible applicants must meet the following basic requirements:

- † The programs and services of the applicant organization are consistent with the Foundation's mission and values.
- † The project must involve a congregation of women religious.
- † The applicant is a tax-exempt, nonprofit entity or listed in The Official Catholic Directory.
- † The beneficiary of the grant is geographically located in South Carolina.

The Foundation normally does not fund the following unless the project demonstrates the potential to make a truly significant impact:

- † Annual appeals or membership campaigns.
- † Capital construction, including the construction of single-family dwellings.
- † Endowment funds.
- † Operational expenses of established organizations or debt retirement.
- † Grants to individuals.
- † Scholarships.

How to Apply

If there seems to be a suitable match, the applicant should complete the appropriate CMI Grant Application online. Visit www.sistersofcharitysc.com, select "Grants," select "Type of Grants" from the drop down menu and then select "Collaboration for Ministry." Choose the grant in which you are applying and begin completing the online grant application.

Applications are due by the first Friday in June (June 5, 2009): online applications are due by 11:59 p.m.; all other applications must reach the Foundation office by 5 p.m. on June 5. This means mailed applications must be received by June 5 (not post marked).

Authorization

If you are applying for the Collaboration for Ministry Grant under a larger organization, you must have the appropriate signature. For example,

- † Church - You must have the pastor's/pastoral administrator's signature.
- † School - You must have the principal's signature.
- † Diocesan Entity/Organization - You must have the signature of the pastor/pastoral administrator.

If you have any questions, please contact:

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