**Rocky Mountain District LCMS – Gospel Gap Paradigm**

**APPLICATION for FUNDS**

FOR CURCUITS TO REQUEST

ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT FUNDING SUPPORT

FOR GOSPEL GAP INITIATIVES

**Expectations**

Resolution 2012-1-01B TO ADOPT A CIRCUIT-BASED MISSION MODEL (Gospel Gap Paradigm) was adopted at the 2012 District Convention. This mission model was proposed as a means to move away from a top-down mission approach to a more grass roots, local mobilization approach. The model is designed to empower multiple congregations to collectively support greater outreach within their circuit. The greatest sense of ownership for the success of the Circuit Gospel Gap (CGG) mission rests with the Circuit.

Circuits are to collaborate in identifying ministry gaps to reach the unchurched or underserved populations within their respective circuits. A missional initiative should be developed to fill the gap through an inclusive process of congregations in the circuit.

Because the district circuits are very diverse in numerous ways, it is anticipated that their CGG initiatives will likewise be quite diverse. Therefore, the nature of support by any given number of congregations is not prescribed but is rather expected to be determined by the nature and needs of the initiative.

If an initiative does not require a high degree of “hands on” involvement by the majority of congregations it is expected that, at a minimum, the majority of congregations be involved or represented in the process to identify the gap and given the opportunity to provide input in the selection of the missional initiative to address it. Hence, a congregation should have buy-in to commit to participating in, and/or funding the initiative in ways that are conductive to the needs of the initiative and within its resources.

**District Funding Support**

The circuit is expected to strive for self-sufficiency in meeting the funding obligation of its CGG initiative. This may include several congregations sharing costs and raising funds for the ongoing development and maintenance of the initiative.

If the circuit determines that all available means to fund the CGG initiative are inadequate to launch and ground the initiative, it may submit an application for funds from the district. A congregation designated by the circuit to liaison with the district office should submit the application.

In keeping with the spirit of the circuit-based Gospel Gap Paradigm, funding requests to the district office should be viewed as “seed money” for initial start-up costs or the early stages of development as opposed to ongoing maintenance cost.

The district will review a circuit’s funding request only on an annual basis. Future funds cannot be guaranteed. Circuits should plan accordingly and not over-rely on district support going forward.

**Selection of Circuit Liaison with the RMD Office**

To facilitate a circuit’s application for funding, each circuit must identify a congregation as the Point of Contact for the District Office. This congregation will likely be a strong advocate for the growth and support of the CGG mission and can communicate about the goals and status of the CGG on behalf of the circuit. Responsibilities are to:

1) Receive the district funds and provide fiscal oversight of their utilization, i.e. accounting and record keeping, expenditure reports, etc., and

2) Ensure that information or reports requested by the RMD office are completed and submitted.

**Instructions**

In order to minimize a top-down style and to avoid prescribing intra-circuit procedures, a minimal amount of information is being requested. The content of the application is intended to serve two-purposes:

1. Inform the funding committee with enough information to indicate that two key elements of the CGG are present and therefore the CGG is eligible for district funding. Elements are:
2. Multiple congregations were included in the process for determining the gap and the missional initiative to address it.
3. Multiple congregations continue to be involved in ongoing support to foster its success and to strive for self-sufficiency from resources within the circuit.
4. Invest in circuits that hold true to the convention resolution for adopting a Circuit-based Gospel Gap missional initiative.

Please complete the application section forms I, II, and III in their entirety.

**To Submit the Application**

Email the completed **Application for Funds** (Sections I – III) to info@rm.lcms.org or mail to:

Rocky Mountain District LCMS

14334 E. Evans Avenue

Aurora, CO 80014-1408

For questions and if needing assistance, call the district office at (303) 695-8001.

**APPLICATION Section I – Applicant, Background, Description**

Date of Application:

Name of Circuit:

Total number of congregations in this circuit:

Name of initiative or ministry outreach effort:

Administrative congregation’s full mailing address:

Administrative congregation’s Circuit Gospel Gap Point of Contact:

Name, Title:

Phone:

Additional Phone:

Email:

1. Briefly describe why this congregation was chosen to serve in this role.
2. Briefly describe the Circuit Gospel Gap initiative. Include the nature of the mission and how it’s carried out, who is being reached and served, strategies and where activities will take place (i.e. geographically, community names and places, churches, etc.)
3. Explain the gap to be addressed and how the circuit identified this gap. Include a brief description of the process, such as the roles (i.e. clergy, laity) of who was involved, the number of congregations that were engaged in the planning, any research conducted, action steps taken that resulted in the adoption of this particular Circuit Gospel Gap initiative, etc.

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| **APPLICATION Section II – Circuit-wide Participation and Support** |
|  |
| Name of Circuit:  |  |
|  Name/Focus of Gospel Gap Initiative:  |  |
| Total Number of Congregations in Circuit: | Total Included in CGG: | Percent Included: | Decision-making Funding Support through Inter-Congregation Coordination |
|   |  |  | Enter only an X where applicable |
| List the Participating Congregations  | Pastor Involved in CGG Planning | Lay person(s) Involved in CGG Planning | Liaison(s) Appointed for Ongoing CGG Planning and Coordination | CGG Approved by Voters to Support with Action or to Fund | Amount congregation budgeted for period covered by this application for funding |
| Enter Name and City ("Lutheran Church" not needed) |
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| **APPLICATION Section III – Circuit Gospel Gap Budget/Funding Request** |
|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Name of Circuit:  |   |  | Check (X) the number this request represents: |
| Name/Focus of CGG Initiative: |  |   | 1st | 2nd | 3rd |
| Fiscal year to be covered in funding request: | *From:*  | *To:*  |   |  |  |  |
|   |   |   |   |   | mm/dd/yy |   | mm/dd/yy |   |   |   |   |
|   |  |   |   |   |   |   |
|   | **Budget Category** | **Amount** | **Description of Use of Funds** (Do not exceed space provided.) |  |
|   | Personnel, Salaries |   |   |   |
|   | Personnel, Benefits |   |   |   |
|   | Purchased P/T Services |   |   |   |
|   | Other Purchased Services |   |   |   |
|   | Supplies |   |   |   |
|   | Non-Capital Equipment |   |   |   |
|   | **Total for CGG:** |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | **Place an X by the one option that describes the role of the RMD's contribution.** |
|  | **Division of cost between the circuit and the district:** | **Amount** | **Percent** |  |  |  | District funds will be utilized in general to meet a portion of the total budget. |
|   | **Of the total CGG, amount budgeted within the Circuit:** |  |  | Should Sum to 100% |   |  | District funds are critical for specifically funding the: *(Identify and explain below)*  |
|   | **Of the total CGG, amount pledged through fund-raising within the Circuit:** |  |  |   |    |
|   | **Of the total CGG, amount requested from the District:** |  |  |  |  |   |  |
|   | **Total (should sum to total above):** |  |   |   |   |   |