

Legacy Grant Fund

1. Approximately 50% of the Legacy grant funds available each year shall be utilized to support local church initiatives in the designated areas. The other 50% of the available funds each year shall be utilized to support region initiatives for the benefit of local church ministry throughout ABCOPAD. The Mission Allocation Committee (MAC) and ABCOPAD Board may approve deviations to this 50/50 split if circumstances warrant based on the requests that are before it.
2. The region initiatives can come from region staff, region officers, region ministry teams, region auxiliaries, and other region-wide entities; however, the purpose of the grant must be primarily to benefit local churches. These should be submitted to the Regional Executive Pastor for endorsement. Wherever possible such proposals should be designed to reach every area of the region, as was the case with the recent Congregational Life Cycle workshops held in each of the six areas, to obtain maximum impact for the dollars invested.
1. To build up and strengthen healthy congregations and lay leadership by:
 - a) updating constitutions and bylaws
 - b) technology training
 - c) stewardship training
 - d) identification and training in becoming a vital congregation
 - e) experiential and theological encounters for the missional church
 - f) training for Deacons, Trustees, Mission Board members, etc.
 - g) training in writing church position descriptions and assistance in handling background checks for those who work with children, youth and/or finances
 - h) congregational training in supporting a pastor, spiritually, emotionally and in ministry
 - i) contextual evangelism training
2. To build up and encourage pastoral leadership:
 - a) support participation and commitment to the Ministers Council and their activities
 - b) training and promoting mentoring and being mentored
 - c) personal finance planning
 - d) working through with church conflict
 - e) worship seminars and training
 - f) interim ministry
 - g) health of the pastor on all levels; defining our ministries
 - h) preaching seminars and training
3. To build up and strengthen relationships with the wider ABC family:
 - a) a current approach to associational life in the 21st century
 - b) identify positive benefits of denominational, regional and associational ties (calling an American Baptist minister)
 - c) training in digital formats
 - d) accessibility for continuing education experiences (webinar experiences)
 - e) connect persons and churches who are operating successful programs with persons and churches who are looking for new avenues of ministry and/or ending programs that are no longer working