

United Thank Offering 125th Anniversary Young Adult Grants – 2015

\$1250 per Award, One per Province, Nine Grants to Be Awarded

The top three, shown in blue, will be attending General Convention to speak at the UTO Dinner about their grant.

Province/Diocese	Title	Purpose
Province I Diocese of Maine	Portland Emergent Missional Community	<p>Create a new congregation to work with a community of un-churched young adults to address their spiritual lives. This is a joint effort between the ELCA Synod and the Diocese of Maine. Small intentional communities will meet in coffee shops or informal spaces with one-to-one relational gatherings.</p> <p>Funds: Website costs, space rental, and food and material costs for hospitality.</p>
Province II Diocese of Newark	Young Adults' Visions (YAV)	<p>Provide a discernment retreat to build community for young adults to develop leadership skills, wrestle with theological questions, organize projects to serve communities, and help the diocese discern ways to minister to people ages 18-30.</p> <p>Funds: Subsidize YA participation in a weekend retreat.</p>
Province III Diocese of Virginia	Charis Community	<p>Create an intentional community on an unused Episcopal church property (small church building, 4 bedroom vicarage, and 8 acres of land). Four 20-something residents will lead weekly worship, creative relational programming, and farming initiatives.</p> <p>Funds: Salary for the young adult leader who is working to set up the community; a tool shed, chicken coop and run, garden fencing, and water catchment system; and having garden tilled and seeded and the house repainted and furnished.</p>
Province IV Diocese of North Carolina	A Movable Feast	<p>Provide chapel outfitting for A Moveable Feast. Part food truck and part chapel on wheels, A Moveable Feast provides food and a place for spiritual practices and discussions on college campuses not supported by diocesan campus ministries. The truck will go to different sites on the campus of Durham Technical Community College and soon to North Carolina Central University.</p> <p>Funds: Outfit a chapel space with rug, votive candles, pillar candles, chairs, and cross – anything left over for food.</p>
Province V Diocese of Milwaukee	An EPIC Mission	<p>Provide a house church-style worship service once a week – twice a month with clergy and other times with non-clergy – for young adults working in a large healthcare IT company (EPIC) in Madison. Many of the employees work very long hours each week and rarely leave the campus, so the goal is to take church and community to them.</p> <p>Funds: Seven weeks of fees for a supply priest and \$250 for marketing and publicity</p>

<p>Province VI Diocese of Minnesota</p>	<p>Planting Young Adult Small Groups: Generation Hmong</p>	<p>Create small, self-sustaining groups that can cater to the busy schedules of young adults in the Hmong community. Leaders will first engage young adults already a part of the Episcopal Church and then reach out to those who are not Episcopalians. Core components of the group meeting: gathering, the Word, the table, and sending out into the world. The small groups will gather in coffee shops or homes and engage in spiritual discernment conversations.</p> <p>Funds: Supplies for gatherings: study books and writing equipment and supplement food and beverages.</p>
<p>Province VII Diocese of Kansas</p>	<p>Summer Youth Ministry Internship for College Students</p>	<p>Provide stipends for two summer interns who will plan for and then take youth from the diocese to General Convention in Utah. (They will coordinate with Diocese of Western Missouri who did a similar program in the past.) The interns will learn about the process of electing a presiding bishop and the structure of Convention to lead the group through the process in Utah. The interns will share their passion for the church with high school students.</p> <p>Funds: Toward the stipend to plan and lead this trip. (Travel funds come from other sources.)</p>
<p>Province VIII Diocese of El Camino Real</p>	<p>Reimagine</p>	<p>Create workshops to help six congregations in the diocese think creatively about the use of outdoor spaces, encouraging them to use some of their property to make small food gardens using conservation practices.</p> <p>Funds: Supplies, honorarium (professional time for designed planning and vision meetings), fuel for travel to congregations, and garden supplies – construction materials, plants, and so forth.</p>
<p>Province IX Diocese of Colombia</p>	<p>Breaking the Silence: Working to Address Sexual Violence Against Children and Decrease Teenage Pregnancy in Colombia</p>	<p>Provide workshops and create protection groups for potential victims of sexual violence ages 10-18. The workshops will teach about bodies and sexual rights in addition to addressing teenage pregnancy issues.</p> <p>Funds: Hire professional staff to train volunteers and lead workshops: educational psychologists, sexologist, and teachers. Provide transportation for staff and volunteers to vulnerable areas in Colombia to hold workshops. Finally, create a database to monitor work of project.</p>