

Millennium Development Goals Information for The Diocese of West Missouri

What are the Millennium Development Goals?

Adopted by world leaders in the year 2000 and set to be achieved by 2015, the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) provide concrete, numerical benchmarks for tackling extreme poverty in its many dimensions.

The MDGs also provide a framework for the entire international community to work together towards a common end – making sure that human development reaches everyone, everywhere. If these goals are achieved, world poverty will be cut by half, tens of millions of lives will be saved, and billions more people will have the opportunity to benefit from the global economy.

The eight MDGs break down into **21 quantifiable targets** that are measured by **60 indicators**.

	Goal 1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
	Goal 2: Achieve universal primary education
	Goal 3: Promote gender equality and empower women
	Goal 4: Reduce child mortality
	Goal 5: Improve maternal health
	Goal 6: Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
	Goal 7: Ensure environmental sustainability
	Goal 8: Develop a Global Partnership for Development

www.undp.org/mdg

What's the response of past General Conventions?

Named a top mission priority by General Convention in 2006, the MDGs are a set of eight principles that provide a framework for

improving social and economic conditions in the world's poorest countries. Among their objectives, the goals commit to eradicating extreme poverty, educating children, empowering women, improving health care, combating preventable diseases and ensuring environmental sustainability, all by 2015.

The church's Standing Commission on Anglican and International Peace with Justice Concerns (SCAIPJC) has dealt with MDG-related issues for the past three triennia and is one of around 50 Episcopal Church committees, commissions, agencies and boards that report to General Convention and may propose legislation to the bishops and deputies.

Although the commission is not submitting any MDG legislation for consideration at convention, it prepared a report outlining the Episcopal Church's overall commitment to the goals during the past triennium and acknowledging "the spiritual transformation we have seen take place in the church as we come face-to-face with Christ working in partnership with our sisters and brothers around the world to end extreme poverty."

The MDGs "are nothing new for the people of God," the report said. "These tangible, achievable goals ... are but a 21st century articulation of what the church has been called to and worked toward its entire existence."

What was the response of The Diocese of West Missouri?

Our diocese agrees with General Convention that addressing the Millennium Development Goals (MDG's) is a priority. Beginning in 2007 an MDG line item was added in the diocesan budget and approved at diocesan convention which set aside funds to address the MDG's. The West Missouri MDG's Grant Application was developed for local churches to explore ways to address the eight goals within organizations they identify as worthy. Since that time \$65,000 has been given to numerous organizations identified by local churches that address at least one of the eight goals.

How are funds dispersed?

Funds have been dispersed in two ways.

- 1) Churches in our diocese complete the MDG Grant Form along with a one page explanation of the overseas organizations and how they will benefit. Grants are read by the MDG Committee and recommended to Diocesan Council for approval. Once approved, funds are sent directly to the selected organization.
- 2) Funds at the end of the calendar year may be donated to organizations recommended by the MDG Committee and with approval by the Diocesan Council. The last four years funds have been given to diverse ministries around the world in the name of our diocese.

Who receives the funds?

The list is long and diverse; focusing on hospitals, clinics, orphanages, schools, and ERD. To date, geographical locations include Guatemala, Haiti, Botswana, and Jordan. For some of our churches this began an overseas ministry. For others it's a method to expand donations. Every church has received their requested amount.

Is there an approved list of organizations?

No! The goal of the grant is *for local churches to decide* what organization should benefit from by their outreach. This gives *each church the opportunity to explore an overseas ministry* in the direction of God's call. It's hoped that this will begin a long-term relationship for all involved. Begin praying about and exploring a ministry that excites the Church.

What are the qualifications?

Complete the grant application form found on the diocesan website, *including a one page* written attachment listing all the benefits of the donation. This page is your opportunity to share information about the selected organization and those who will benefit. Grants are awarded *in any amount up to \$500 to churches who match* at least the dollar amount requested. Funds must be used for overseas ministry only, since that is the purpose of the MDG Initiative. If your church is presently donating to a qualified organization, these funds can complement current donations. If a church is not currently donating overseas, other offerings may qualify. For instance it's the policy of our diocese to donate all undesignated

Good Friday Offering to the Diocese of Jerusalem. If your church collects \$350 on Good Friday that amount can be matched for the Diocese of Jerusalem or any other overseas ministry the church identifies. The idea is for this to be a local initiative that will generate local interest.

Where is the grant form?

On Page 3 of this form. The grant form is also located on the Diocesan Website (www.diowestmo.org) under the bullet 'Resources'. Then click on 'Parish Resources'. Locate the heading 'Diocesan' and scroll down to 'Millennium Development Goals Application' and click to open. Grants will be accepted as indicated at the bottom of the form.

When completed what do I do?

Send the application by fax, in person, or by mail to the address at the bottom of the form. If you have any questions please contact Deacon Galen Snodgrass at snodgrassg@gracecarthage.org or call (417) 358-4631/Fax (417) 358-6775.

Millennium Development Goal Committee Members

Clergy:

Deacon Galen Snodgrass
Southern Deanery Rep./Chair
Deacon Nancy Nevins
Central Deanery Rep./Assistant Chair
Deacon Sharron Heathman
Central Deanery Rep./Member
Deacon Sherrill Russell
Northern Deanery Rep./Member

Lay:

David Westervelt
Southern Deanery Rep.
Position Open
Metro Deanery Rep.
Position Open
Central Deanery Rep.
Paul Tarro
Northern Deanery Rep.



Millennium Development Goals Grant Application 2012



Date	
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Parish Name			
Address			
City, State ZIP			
Contact Person			
Telephone Number		Email Address	

MDG Matching Amount Raised		MDG Grant Request— \$500 maximum	
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Selected Project Name			
Mailing Address			
City, State ZIP			
Contact Person			
Email Address		MDG Addressed by Number	

Signatures

Clergy	
Wardens	
Treasurer	

**Grant applications will be recommended by the MDG Committee
to Diocesan Council for approval.**

Funds will be sent from the diocese to the organization in the name of the congregation/parish.

Please include a signed letter of endorsement from the Vestry/Bishop's Committee

**Please mail or fax this form with the one page summary (see description page)
on or before Wednesday, *October 31, 2012* to:**

**The Rev. Galen Snodgrass,
Grace Church Carthage,
PO Box 596, Carthage MO 64836**

Fax: 417-358-6775