# **Leadership Grant Summary Page**

**Information** 

**Date of Application:** November 11, 2019

Name of the Ministry submitting this application: La Iglesia Episcopal Church en UCF /

Iglesia Episcopal Jesus de Nazaret

Name and Title of person submitting the application: The Rev. Jose Rodriguez

**Street Address:** 26 Willow Drive

City, State and Zip Code: Orlando, FL 32807

**Phone:** 407-325-6148

Email: padre@iglesiajesusdenazaret.com

Diocese in which the ministry is located: Name of Bishop: The Rt. Rev. Greg Brewer Bishop's email: bpbrewer@cfdiocese.org Bishop's Phone Number: (407) 423-3567

**Project Title and Summary:** (In one paragraph, summarize your grant application and goals.)

Iglesia Episcopal Jesus the Nazaret and the Hispanic Commission of the Diocese of Central Florida are relaunching the UCF Canterbury Club as la Iglesia Episcopal en UCF. This project will relaunch a 10-year old ministry that has gone dormant. The ministry will be a bi-lingual and multicultural lay led ministry serving universities in Central Florida with a focus on the University of Central Florida and three Puerto Rican universities with campuses in South Orlando. This will build upon the social justice and advocacy ministry born out of a two-year grant from Episcopal Relief and Development. The ministry will be led by young adult students of the university and will promote reconciliation by leveraging the advocacy work of Iglesia Episcopal Jesus de Nazaret; continue to build capacity in at risk communities with a focus on disaster preparedness and environmental stewards by leveraging an awarded grant from the City of Orlando; and will continue the work of evangelism that had been hallmark of the prior campus ministry. At the end of the grant it is expected bringing the work of the Episcopal Service Corps into Central Florida and external funding sources be secured.

YES, I give my permission for my Grant Title and Summary to be published by DFMS.

**Amount requested**: \$30,000

### **Narrative Description**

This young adult ministry will replicate the advocacy and outreach work of *Iglesia Episcopal Jesus de Nazaret* ("*Iglesia*") within the context of college ministry. *Iglesia* is supporting the work of two lay college students in re-launching a campus ministry at the University of Central Florida ("UCF"). This ministry will affirm the ministry of evangelism among ethnic groups (GC Resolution 1991-A065). This re-launch will be bi-lingual and multicultural with a focus on justice work within the Latinx community. A vibrant young adult community where faith and culture is lived out loud will be established<sup>1</sup>. Meetings of the group will be focused on evangelism through bi-lingual Evening Prayer services near UCF. Outreach work will be justice focused and will occur in and around the Central Florida community.

The grant leader will be a part-time graduate student of the UCF. The church is working with Lexy Fields, who returned from a 2-year mission in Costa Rica with the Young Adult Service Corps ("YASC"). She will be assisted by a part-time undergraduate student. The work will be supported by *Iglesia* in Orlando. The students will be empowered to make decisions and work alongside *Iglesia*. The former chaplain to UCF is the vicar of *Iglesia* and will provide support and be available for consultation.

*Iglesia* received significant investment from Episcopal Relief and Development ("ERD") to provide support for displaced Puerto Ricans impacted by Hurricane Maria. At the end of 2019 that program will transition to one funded by a consortium of universities through a Federal Grant. The advocacy work of *Iglesia* is widely recognized<sup>2</sup> and will serve as springboard for student lead work at local universities.

This partnership will engage the Latinx community and provide students and leaders with a variety of areas to work alongside the *Iglesia* in advocating for our neighbors from working with expectant mothers<sup>3</sup>; working with youth in culturally responsive ways<sup>4</sup>; working with asylum seekers and providing hunger relief<sup>5</sup>; disaster relief and capacity building<sup>6</sup>; voting and civil rights<sup>7</sup>; and LGBTQ+ issues.<sup>8</sup> *Iglesia* has not shied away from any advocacy work that reveals hope and promotes the wellbeing of the Latinx community.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://www.orlandosentinel.com/elsentinel/os-es-fe-religiosa-florida-central-espanol-20190410-story.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> http://www.cfdiocese.org/cfe\_tax/leadership/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> https://www.orlandosentinel.com/weather/hurricane/puerto-rico-hurricane-recovery/os-puerto-rico-hurricane-baby-20180410-story.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> https://www.orlandosentinel.com/elsentinel/comunidad/os-es-chicas-florida-celebraran-quinceanero-donacion-trajes-20190528-6qdyas7ahff3hg3w7xqeziemya-story.html

 $<sup>^5\</sup> https://www.mynews13.com/fl/orlando/news/2019/04/14/orlando-church-helping-asylum-seekers-with-food--application$ 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> https://www.episcopalrelief.org/stories/assed-based-disaster-response-with-the-rev-jose/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> https://www.buzzfeednews.com/article/nidhiprakash/puerto-ricans-hurricane-florida-vote-election-2018

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> https://www.orlandosentinel.com/entertainment/arts-and-theater/os-et-faith-diversity-festival-orlando-20190816-tgrcg6qforbi5okstvg2qe52iy-story.html

*Iglesia* has an extensive relationship with UCF<sup>9</sup> as well relationships with a consortium of schools lead by the University of Miami<sup>10</sup>. *Iglesia* is unique in housing offices for UCF and research facilities for the University of Florida. The relationship with *Iglesia* will provide access to an extensive community network of organizations and civic leaders. <sup>11</sup> *Iglesia* has extended the initial investment from ERD into a permanent program with innovative funding sources and will work to guide student leaders to use an investment for young adult ministry to create a permanent and sustainable ministry.

*Iglesia* has been recognized for its work inside<sup>12</sup> and outside<sup>13</sup> of the church. The goal is for the church to work with student leaders to replicate its local proven model of community engagement within the local Latinx community into the young adult context. The ministry will establish service opportunities for recent high school graduates and university students. *Iglesia* will provide administrative support and mentoring lay leaders. The Canterbury Retreat and Conference Center has pledged free facilities usage close to the UCF. The ministry has begun to raise local support for programming through partnerships with local parishes.

The ministry has a launch team consisting of an experienced young adult lay leader and a committed volunteer. Both are students at UCF. The ministry will leverage a decade of college ministry and existing on campus relationships. This re-launch will provide bi-lingual and multicultural worship. UCF is the second largest university in the United States and currently there is limited outreach focusing on Hispanic students.

The ministry is already engaged in a social media campaign and through recruiting is showing strong initial growth. The development our lay leaders will be through relationships with other local college ministries. Brother Angel Roque with the Diocese of South Florida is already providing mentorship to one of our student leaders. We will be working with YASC veteran Lexy Fields to identify training opportunities available in the Episcopal Church and will also work with various community partners to provide development opportunities for our leaders.

In support of General Convention, this ministry will support the work YASC by supporting a Service Corps member and exploring new ways of expanding that ministry in Central Florida (Resolution Nbr. 2015-A112) through exploring a partnership with the Episcopal Service Corps ("ESC"). The ministry will leverage diocesan Hispanic ministry experience advocating within and outside the Church. In Austin, the diocesan Hispanic deputies organized and co-sponsored

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> https://www.wmfe.org/ucf-restores-trauma-clinic-services-survivors-of-hurricanes-maria-and-irma/99751

 $<sup>^{10}\</sup> https://news.miami.edu/stories/2019/01/hurricane-maria-survivors-in-central-and-south-florida-experienced-higher-mental-stress.html$ 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> https://murphy.house.gov/news/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=657 and https://www.orlandosentinel.com/news/orange-county/os-kissimmee-puerto-rico-church-20180308-story.html

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> https://episcopalchurch.org/library/article/state-union-invitation-highlights-florida-episcopalians-work-displaced-puerto-ricans

<sup>13</sup> http://www.cfdiocese.org/cfe\_tax/leadership/ and https://www.hfuw.org/our-change-makers/

legislation promoting respect for the dignity of immigrants (2018-C033); amended discernment processes to forbid discrimination based on immigration status (2018-D092); and the provision of fellowships to attend convention for deputies from non-domestic dioceses (2018-D094). In expanding on this work, the ministry will explore creating local internships for recent high school grands entering college (2018-A174) and will also support new ministries in community college by engaging in intentional outreach to satellite campuses of Puerto Rican universities located in Orlando (2012-C069).

The ministry will address environmental concerns by promoting climate justice and disaster preparedness<sup>14</sup>; and will evangelize and bring the gospel to Latinx students while engaging in multicultural and bilingual outreach. The student leaders have already begun this work. It is anticipated that an initial investment from the Episcopal Church will allow us to replicate the success our local parish has had with the investment it received from the Episcopal Church.

Aside from re-establishing this ministry, it is anticipated that this investment will allow us to bring the work of the ESC to Central Florida. There are many opportunities to serve in Orlando including the local Episcopal Church's initiative to address persistent urban poverty in a specific Orlando community. We are confident that we will be able to partner with others to attract workers to Central Florida to support the many ministry opportunities within the Latinx community that are available.

## Timetable:

### **Pre-Award**

- Assemble leadership team and do soft launch (completed).
- Apply to be a student organization at UCF (in progress).
- Secure grants and other funding (in progress).
- Develop digital assets and develop social media presence.

### Post Award – Year 1

- Secure grant and meet with church's Grant Administrator to lay out master plan for 2-year program (within 30 days).
- Receive funds and hire positions (within 60 days).
- Grant reporting as required.
- Formal program launch with branding and digital assets (within 90 days).
- Network with local organizations (within 90 days).
- Network with Episcopal Church organizations (within 90 days).
- Begin conversation and submit application with ESC (no later than June 1, 2020)<sup>16</sup>.
- Explore and fundraise to be part of Young Adult Presence at General Convention (continuous).
- Apply for funding grants available in FY 2020 (as available).

<sup>14</sup> https://www.episcopalrelief.org/stories/assed-based-disaster-response-with-the-rev-jose/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> https://www.mynews13.com/fl/orlando/news/2019/10/30/projects-looks-to-solve-urban-poverty

<sup>16</sup> https://episcopalservicecorps.org/start-a-new-program/

• Strategy session to review and analyze lessons learned (at year end).

### Post Award – Year 2

- Strategy session to launch Year 2 (within 30 days of Year 2)
- Continue discernment with ESC and possibly launch new ESC site (TBD).
- Attend leadership development seminars and opportunities (continuous as available).
- Send Young Adult delegation to General Convention (funding permitting).
- Grant reporting as required (continuous).
- Apply for funding grants available in FY 2021.
- Document project outcomes and lessons learned (by end of Year 2).

## **Evaluation and Continuation of Ministry**

- 1) List the goals you hope to accomplish with this project and the way(s) in which you will evaluate the progress made in reaching these goals.
- Establish a bi-lingual and multicultural group grounded in justice work and evangelism. UCF is the second largest university in the United States. There are many student ministries on campus, but there is little outreach to Latinx students. This ministry will also do outreach work at the Puerto Rican university branches located in South Orlando (Ana G. Mendez, Interamericana, and Polytecnica).
- Create lay leadership team comprised of students and young adults. This team has been identified and engaged. Success will be based on being able to develop leaders that will be leaders for the local church and the church at large. The previous iteration of this ministry produced three (3) ordained priests for the church and numerous lay leaders. This ministry will continue to be a laboratory for discernment and leadership.
- Create formal leadership opportunities for students and young adults. *Iglesia* has already arranged for internships for academic credit for students. This grant will allow the move of existing internships under the umbrella of the ministry. Leaders will be a mix of campus leaders recent high school graduates, and college interns engaged in justice and advocacy work in the community. We will leverage our relationship with the local School Board to support outreach to recent high school graduates.
- Explore a relationship with the ESC. Leveraging the experience and leadership of Lexy Fields within YASC we anticipate beginning conversations to extend the work of the ESC into Central Florida. The work of *Iglesia* has created numerous opportunities for service in the local community.
- 2) Explain how the ministry/project will be funded at the conclusion of the grant.

Iglesia understands and has experience using grants as investment and not merely operational support and has tremendous experience with receiving and executing grants. *Iglesia* has been able to move from a 2-year domestic program with ERD and obtained federal funding through a consortium of universities to continue its work. *Iglesia* will immediately work with the ministry to identify sources of funding within and outside the

church to extend the work of the ministry beyond the two years provided funded.

# **Budget Worksheet**

# Iglesia Episcopal en UCF / Iglesia Episcopal Jesus de Nazaret (Orlando, FL)

Description	Proposed Funding from Grant	Other Funding	Budget Narrative
Other Income (Income other than the grant funding)	\$30,000	\$0	Requesting \$30,000 dollar to support the hiring of two student leaders to support the work of the ministry.
Diocesan/Congregational/ Community Support	\$0	\$8,000	The local parish has been able to raise funds for these positions.  It will provide \$4,000 a year from the following sources:  \$2,000 – Local Grants \$1,000 – Hispanic Commission
0.14.41	#20.000	Φ0.000	\$1,000 – <i>Iglesia</i>
Subtotal Program and Learning Opportunities	\$30,000	\$8,000	
Non Local Programs	TBD		Will work with partner parishes and other Episcopal church ministries to identify program and learning opportunities and leverage all scholarships available.
Subtotal	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Personnel Costs	ψ0.00	Ψ0.00	
Graduate Student Fellowship (2 years)	\$24,000*		Graduate student fellowship will provide the experienced lay leadership to bring in relationships with Episcopal Church and the YASC. The graduate student will support the work of the students and help coordinate all outreach efforts and leadership development.  *In support of resolution 2015-C048 and hourly living wage rate for Orlando of
			\$15 was used as the basis for this fellowship. The number of hours worked per week was based on the current part-

## **Eligibility**

**Signatures:** 

These grants are intended to provide funding for an Episcopal ministry (or ecumenical ministry with an Episcopal presence) in a diocese, congregation, or college/university that is currently engaging in or seeking a new relationship with young adults on and off college campuses.

# **Competitive Grant Requirements**

In accordance with Canon I.4.6, grant applicants must understand that the recipient's diocese's failure to pay its assessment in full or to apply for and receive a waiver shall render the diocese ineligible to receive grants or loans from the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society unless approved by Executive Council. Grants will be considered if one of these criteria are met.

- X The applicant's diocese pays its full assessment.
- The applicant's diocese has been granted a waiver for years (list).
- The applicant's diocese has made application for a waiver but has not been advised regarding a determination.

The applicant understands that the applicant's diocese's failure to pay its assessment in full or to apply for and receive a waiver shall render the diocese ineligible to receive grants or loans from the DFMS approved by Executive Council.

# Prepared by (print or type name and title) The Reverend Jose Rodriguez. Signature Date 11/11/19 Approval of Diocesan Bishop | Date | Date

I continue to be grateful for the work being done by Fr. Rodriguez in the community among the Latinx population. I am particularly excited about this grant opportunity because of its target group: young adults. Outreach to and involvement with a new generation of people presents a tremendous opportunity for evangelism while also providing much-needed social services. Fr. Rodriguez and his team can live out Christ's Gospel in practical, approachable ways. This grant application has my full support.