



The United Thank Offering invites every Episcopalian to:

Notice the good thing that happen each day.

Give thanks to God for your blessings.

Make an offering for each blessing.

Through UTO, your blessings become blessings for others.

Thank you

Thank you to everyone who, through a personal spiritual discipline of gratitude, contributed to the United Thank Offering's 2020 Ingathering. As a result of your gratitude and generosity, we raised \$1,039,462.77 in thank offerings for two round of COVID-19 grants. The COVID-19 grants combine some historic traditions for UTO — namely, sustaining previous grant winners to ensure that vital ministries continue, in addition to funding innovative responses to the pandemic. Grants that sustain previous sites are indicated in the title.

The UTO Board offered funding levels to guide requests in the hope of funding as many grant sites as possible due to the extreme need the global pandemic has caused. The UTO Board received over \$2 million in requests for this second round of COVID grants. Remember that every penny given to the United Thank Offering is given away to support innovative mission and ministry in The Episcopal Church. Since our official founding in 1889, UTO has awarded 5,384 grants for a total of \$141,104,725.30. (For a complete list of all UTO grants, please visit www.episcopalchurch.org/UTO and click on the Resources tab at the bottom of the page.)

This year the UTO Board received 130 applications through two granting cycles and were able to fund 53 grants, including three historical grants (explained below). Four grants support a diocese that receives block grants from General Convention. Seven grants fund projects in the Anglican Communion. The remaining 36 grants are to projects within The Episcopal Church. Historical grants are awarded each year by the UTO Board for projects that fall outside of the regular parameters of our granting process but within the historical practices of UTO.

When UTO was founded, the Ingathering Funds were used to send and support UTO missionaries. In 1923, the Emery Trust (335) was created to care for the Emery Lounge and Rooms and the items contained there, in addition to supporting the rest, formation, and care of UTO missionaries. The Emery Trust funded the Gifts to Missionary grant until 2006, when it stopped being utilized. Beginning in 2018, with thanks to the Executive Council and the Archives, the UTO Board was able to award the trust to support missionaries sent by The Episcopal Church or for the upkeep of archival UTO materials.

Currently, missionaries are sent to serve in communities through the Global Partnership Team or through the Episcopal Service Corps, part of the Formation Team. We will always list this grant along with the annual awards, just as was done in the past; however, we will demarcate the award as being from the trust.

Additionally, in the spirit of the early UTO missionaries, the UTO Board continues to support young women through our internship program. This internship gives young women an opportunity to experience intentional mentoring and opportunities to learn, grow, and discern where God is calling them next in their life adventures. It also helps them share the ministry and work of UTO with others. The final historical grant is part of a practice the UTO Board created years ago to support and partner with the Presiding Bishop. Historically, UTO has funded grants to the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society to support new work that the church budget had not yet expanded to fund. These awards have supported everything from staff positions, conferences, creation of educational resources, to building projects.





Diocese of New Jersey, St. Paul's Community Health Clinic, \$11,065.18

In response to the challenges posed by the pandemic on the homeless population in our city, St. Paul's Church and the Rutgers Camden School of Nursing are collaborating on a health clinic to serve a deeply at-risk population. This grant will fund personnel and the purchase of medical supplies.

Diocese of North Dakota, Memorial Feeds – Feeding Recovery from COVID-19, \$17,000

The Diocese of North Dakota will provide food for memorial meals through its six Native American congregations. These feeds are core ways of completing a portion of the grieving cycle that has been brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. Families gather their support system at a memorial to give thanks.

Diocese of Pennsylvania, The Food Pantry at Grace, \$10,350

The Food Pantry at Grace started in the community when COVID-19 hit. We operate on a "day of" basis, with no way to store refrigerated foods, and no set schedule. With freezers and refrigerators, and updated electrical systems, we can store perishables and operate on a more scheduled basis.

Diocese of Alabama, St Mary's Food Bank Cooler/ Freezer Project, \$10,000

St. Mary's Food Bank provides bags of staples and frozen protein to our clients. This grant is for the purchase of a walk-in cooler/ freezer, so St. Mary's can provide milk, cheese, and produce every week to our families who continue to be impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Diocese of Arizona, Community Driven Streaming & Digital Ministry in the Time of COVID-19, \$24,873

This grant provides video production equipment to thirteen parishes throughout Arizona. It will enable parishes to stream worship services, perform pastoral care and outreach, and stream special events via the internet to members who are restricted from attending in-person due to COVID-19 and longer term to our parish's large retirement population.

Diocese of Chicago, COVID-19 Spanish-Language Pastoral Care Relief Training Course Development, \$23,560

COVID-19 increases need for spiritual care but decreases accessibility to communities hardest hit. This grant provides support for technology and program building to meet the needs of Latinx communities, through remote access for pastoral care training.

Diocese of Eastern Oregon, Sustaining: Ascension Greenhouse Enhancements for COVID-19 Response, \$7,200

This grant will enhance the greenhouse by installing a heating system which will enable growing food and propagate native plant starts for indigenous first foods on a year-round basis in the harsh Eastern Oregon climate. This will mitigate food insecurity and risk in our community as people struggle with access to healthy, affordable food due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Convocation of Churches in Europe, Digital Ministry Capacity Building for Europe, \$9,322

Over the months of the pandemic, the Convocation's congregations, spread across Europe, have demonstrated tremendous creativity and resilience in developing digital ministries and engaging new virtual communities. We seek now, as a Convocation, to strengthen this work by creating a community of practice among emergent leaders in digital ministry.

Diocese of El Camino Real, Sustaining Stepping Stones (formerly Project Bridge), \$25,000

Stepping Stones, networking with the faith community as strategic support partners, provides strengths-based reentry case management for incarcerated men by establishing a connection within 24 hours of release; as part of a legal advocacy coalition, presses for jail and prison reform; hosting weekly worship that includes incarcerated members.

Episcopal Migration Ministries, Diocese of Los Angeles, New Start Asylee Orientation Program, \$25,000

Asylees are one of most vulnerable groups affected by COVID-19. They are not eligible for stimulus or unemployment funds and are often just released from immigration detention. Interfaith Refugee & Immigration Service (IRIS) will implement the New Start Asylee Orientation Program to help asylees to access vital programs and support.

Diocese of Lexington, A Caring Place: Feeding the Soul and Body with Love and Gratitude, \$20,800

Feeding the soul and body with love and gratitude takes our compassionate relational phone ministry in an entirely new direction. Since the pandemic, we now provide a home-delivered nutritious meal Monday through Friday to the disabled and elderly within our community and eligible family members who have no other food resources.

Diocese of Los Angeles, St. Luke's/San Lucas Laundry Project, \$10,000

Every Saturday, 85-100 unhoused people come to St. Luke's/ San Lucas for showers, clothes, and food. Given COVID-19 transmission concerns, we need a secure, commercial-grade laundry facility for safe laundering and reusing of towels and clothes which this grant will provide. Through Laundry Love, low wealth neighbors will have an affordable, safe, community-based laundry.

Diocese of Louisiana, Sustaining: Anna's Place NOLA, \$25,000

Anna's Place NOLA addresses the inequalities affecting Black/ African American youth living in poverty in New Orleans—failing schools, violent neighborhoods, lack of family support, low self-esteem, generational poverty—through out-of-school time programs for students age 5-18, so they can reach their potential, envision and achieve a better life.

Diocese of Louisiana, Sustaining: Jericho Road, \$9,500

Jericho Road provides homeownership opportunities to low-moderate income first-time homebuyers. We offer programming to ensure that homeownership is possible and sustainable for our homebuyers despite obstacles they may face. We refuse to allow the COVID 19 pandemic to be an obstacle and are shifting our services to a virtual platform.

Diocese of Maryland, Claggett Center Mentoring & Tutoring Program, \$25,000

The Claggett Center's Mentoring & Tutoring Program provides essential childcare and educational services for elementary and middle school-aged children. Physically distant, CDC compliant programs are offered Monday-Friday during school hours in small group formats with mentorship, recreation, and educational support; thereby allowing parents to return to work.

Diocese of Maryland, Guardian Angel Food Pantry Director, \$10,000

We seek seed money for a part-time Food Pantry Director at Guardian Angel [church] in Baltimore. The Food Pantry provides 70+ households per week with 2-3 free bags of groceries and essential cleaning, hygiene, and personal products. It also refers to needed services, and on Wednesdays serves a hot breakfast.

Diocese of Massachusetts, Sustaining: ProGente Connections, \$25,000

ProGente Connections seeks funding for our essential bilingual Program Director. She supports a socially isolated Brazilian community in Metrowest Boston. This community has gathered around programs UTO funded in 2019. We need help to increase and develop her impact as these immigrants weather COVID-19 with negligible social supports.

Diocese of New York, Bienstar en Portchester, \$8,750

Bienstar means wellbeing. Our community faces many challenges, from poverty and living in the United States as undocumented immigrants, to the racial disparities of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, to longstanding traumas. We will foster wellbeing through connecting people to fresh vegetables and to subsidized professional therapy services.

Diocese of Newark, Sustaining: All the Way Up, \$25,000

All The Way Up is continuing its ministry of providing education to the underserved in Newark & Greater Essex County amidst the pandemic. We request support of our Virtual Learning Platform which allows students to stay connected and learn, working one-on-one with volunteers and in online classes with our teachers.

Diocese of North Carolina, Sustaining: St. Augustine's College Chapel, HBCU, \$18,686

The Historic Chapel was built by freedmen 153 years ago. In order for the Chapel to be a center for storytelling, learning, recovery, and growth in COVID-19-time, we need to update our technology to be able to live-stream services and formation programs, and develop an outdoor space for COVID-19-safe gatherings.

Diocese of Pennsylvania, The Hive, \$25,000

The Hive community for spirituality and wellness is creating a new platform that empowers women to stay connected, grounded, and show up for equality in a time of global pandemic. The Hive is designing new virtual classes, forums, and a sophisticated interactive website to spiritually equip individuals to experience God's love and change the world.

Diocese of Southwest Florida, Sustaining: Benison Farm's Feeding Response, \$25,000

Benison Farm at St. Augustine's provides fresh produce in St. Petersburg's food desert. Our mission is to give away/sell our crops in these neighborhoods. Benison Farm's feeding response will allow us to increase our capacity for processing and storing more fresh produce to feed those most affected by COVID-19.

Diocese of Washington, Sustaining: Charlie's Place, \$25,000

Charlie's Place (CP) provides a nutritious meal 5 days per week to our food insecure neighbors. More than food, however, we offer clothing, haircuts, toiletries, physician-provided medical care, art therapy, yoga and writing classes, and case management services. We seek to continue to provide this care despite the COVID-19 disruptions.

Diocese of West Tennessee, Barth House Safe House, \$4,500

In partnership with diocesan parishes, clergy, and laity, this project will utilize the renovated Barth House Episcopal Center in Memphis to create a safe, welcoming remote-learning situation for economically challenged college students or for those whose homes are less than safe places.



Anglican Communion Awards

Bi-Lateral Partner: Brazil, Diocese of Amazonia Educational Complementation – Education Art, \$24,811.81

This project will serve 100 vulnerable children by offering school complementation to reduce the impacts of COVID-19 that left a huge gap in training of poor children who in 2020 didn't have access to internet education. Social isolation increased the rates of violence against women and children, as well as child sexual exploitation. The project aims to break the vicious circle of poverty and marginalization through educational and recreational actions, bringing about a transformation in our community.

Bi-Lateral Partner: Brazil, Missionary District, Empowering Women to Overcome Increased Vulnerability due to COVID-19, \$8,207

This project is an initiative of the Women of the Anglican Church of Ariqueles, Rondônia-Brazil, in partnership with the House of Reception of Women in Situations of Violence - Noeli dos Santos, of the Anglican Episcopal Church of Brazil, who together developed this initiative of professional training aimed at generating income to meet the needs of women around Casa Noeli dos Santos. This project will promote the generation of income for women in situations of violence and social vulnerability - women who had their economic situation aggravated by unemployment during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Covenant Partner: Philippines, Diocese of North Central Philippines, EDNCP Vegetable Consolidation and Multi-purpose Center, \$24,986

This project enhances the EDNCP's ministry to vegetable farmers by establishing a center for consolidation and targeted marketing of vegetables. Already reeling from lack of control of the market, many of these farmers have been brought to the brink of starvation by the pandemic. The project will hasten their recovery and build up long-term resiliency.

Ceylon, Diocese of Colombo, Building Resilience through Equal Access to Education, \$15,769.32

A recent national study showed that 70% of children in Sri Lanka do not have (or have very limited) access to the internet necessary for distance learning during COVID-19 closures. This project aims to assist disadvantaged communities bridge the digital gap to access education in a safe place.

Jerusalem and the Middle East, Diocese of Cyprus and the Gulf, Ministering to Families and Individuals, \$23,569

Additional to its established ministry to food-insecure individuals, St. Paul's Cathedral, Nicosia, hopes to enable families in need to flourish through offering "family-friendly" food parcels and hot meals assisted by a family worker post; educational supplies; homework support; and supervised use of an onsite outdoor secure play area with equipment.

Kenya, Diocese of Mumias, COVID-19 Children's Safehouse, \$25,000

The Diocese of Mumias seeks to provide a safe house for vulnerable street children in Mumias, as a way of sheltering them from physical and emotional violence. The safe house will help decrease exposure to COVID-19, since this group is at high risk due to their circumstances.

Tanzania, Reaching Out to Children at Schools and Colleges, \$9,825

In response to COVID-19, the Anglican Church of Tanzania, through its religious education department, has come up with a program to reach out to children at school to teach them about COVID safety by expressing it as a way to love your neighbor by curbing the virus. (Tanzanian's education policy allows religious education to be taught at public schools.)

Tanzania, Diocese of Western Tanganyika, Assisting Mothers' Union with Planting Plots to Develop Livelihoods to Respond to COVID-19, \$25,000

Due to the ongoing pandemic, food insecurity has increased among the poorest of Tanzania. This grant will allow the diocese to allocate 150 hectares for garden plots so women can grow food for their families.

Bi-Lateral Partner: Brazil, Diocese of Brazilia COVID-19 - Emergency Project: Solidarity and Transformation, \$9,745.04

This project ensures food security of children and elderly people in social vulnerability on the outskirts of Brasilia. Federal District, Brazil. Brazil's rates of deaths caused by COVID19 are the second highest in the world.

Ceylon, Diocese of Kurunagala, Food Security Programs at Polonnaruwa and Liyangala, \$9,682

This project will develop agricultural self-sufficiency in the two areas in which mission centers were built from a 2017 UTO grant. This will enable an outreach to the areas mentioned as well as other parish areas in close proximity to these centers.

Covenant Partner: Iglesia Anglicana de la Region Central America (IARCA), Diocese of Guatemala, Way of Love Emergency Relief, 18,064

This project will provide six months of emergency assistance to 477 families in 36 churches across the Diocese of Guatemala, who are at high risk of being acutely affected by the pandemic. Aid will ensure food and health security to decrease the risk of COVID-19 transmission.

Jerusalem and the Middle East, Diocese of Jerusalem, Sustaining: Princess Basma Center, 25,000

The project aims at sustaining the empowerment of mothers of children with disabilities (CWD), through safer services at home period, by teaching mothers remotely through virtual online sessions to become shadow therapists, in addition to providing them with psychosocial support, and educational awareness about children's rights.

South Sudan, Diocese of Nzara, Emergency Campaign Against COVID-19, \$3,600

Emergency Campaign against COVID-19 is a quick intervention by Nzara Diocese to provide awareness and support to the vulnerable Christian community in Nzara County.



Historical Grant Awards

Johnson Service Corps House: Diocese of North Carolina, Julia Chester Emery Internship, \$28,500

The Julia Chester Emery Intern will be a member of the Johnson Service Corps in North Carolina and supports the work of the Reconciliation, Justice and Creation Care (RJCC) Team, which includes UTO. The intern will support staff and work to help share stories of gratitude, reconciliation, and creation care.

Presiding Bishop, Support for Episcopal Chaplaincy, \$36,264.54

This grant will create the part-time short-term position of Health Chaplaincies Consultant for The Episcopal Church. Currently, Episcopal Chaplains are serving in a variety of locations directly responding to COVID-19 and have asked for help and support after a year of intense work and dedication. This consultant would assist in developing a database of chaplains, identify training and pastoral care opportunities, as well as ensure that dioceses are aware of the presence of chaplains in their area.

Emery Trust #335 Award, Episcopal Service Corps: Resiliency Education, \$66,000

Every year, approximately 100 young adults ages 21-32 embody the Way of Love as volunteers through Episcopal Service Corps. An ESC service year is rigorous, requiring Corps members to call upon deep reserves of resiliency and adaptability. Through education and professional direction, we propose intentionally nurturing these attributes in Corps members to support their wellbeing and success.