**Congregation Outreach Ministry (COM)**

**ROSE Proposal**

The New Ministry Development and Evangelism Team in ELCA Christian Community and Leadership (CCL) partners with synods, bishops, directors for evangelical mission, and rostered and congregational leaders across the church to recruit, train, and deploy leaders to establish and grow Christian communities.

We join with partners across our church to activate each other so that more people come to know the way of Jesus and discover community of love and justice.  As we live into God’s Love Made Real, we invite all to create conditions so that we can strengthen our existing congregations and grow with vibrant, ethnically diverse, economically diverse, and LGBTQIA+ communities.

**Contact Information**

Congregation Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

City & State: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Congregation ID: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Anticipated Start Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Ministry Leader (if known): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Synod Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Total Requested ($10,000 max): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*Please note, you do not need to answer every question individually; these are curiosity questions to fully understand the proposal.*

**Rationale for funding this ministry**

1. What is the compelling vision driving this outreach ministry? Give clear insights about the context.
2. How does this COM live out both the synod’s and congregation’s mission and vision?
3. What is envisioned as the signature ministry of this COM?
4. How will this ministry invite new people into the way of Jesus through community, justice, and love?
5. What curious questions will you ask during this ministry launch? What do you intend to learn from this evangelism initiative?
6. Show some demographics or other data that support the area potential for this initiative. (Please add or attach.)

**Objectives for this ministry including**

1. Leadership Team: Who will be the leaders of this COM and how are their gifts suited to help cultivate this outreach ministry?
2. Evangelism: How will this ministry tell the story of Jesus? What spaces will be created to experience the love of Christ? How will this ministry incorporate prayer, testimony, and Christ-centered activity?
3. Building Relationships/Outreach: How is community created and fostered? How will leaders encourage building Christ-centered relationships for growth?
4. Discipleship: What is the plan to incorporate faith practices, prayer, and discipleship into this new community? How will the gifts and passions of the community members be identified, developed, and deployed?
5. Cultural Relevance and/or Plans for Justice and Equity: How will diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility be addressed?

**Strategy for this ministry**

1. Share your goals for this year. (*Small and simple are appropriate!)*
2. How do you intend to reach these goals?
3. Who will be key supporters in this strategy? (i.e., Current Lutheran congregation(s), coaches, mentors, other denominations, community partners, and leaders)
4. How will new leaders be identified, welcomed, discipled, trained, and resourced?

**Evaluation process to be used in assessing this ministry**

1. How will you know you have reached your goals?
2. How will you share what you are learning?
3. How often and in what ways will the ministry leader connect with the Director for Evangelical Mission on regularly for supervision?
4. A final summary report is due after the 1-year grant. We also recommend a progress report with the Program Manager for Evangelism Initiatives at the 6-month mark. What date(s) will the ministry leader share reports with the Director for Evangelical Mission, Bishop, and the New Ministry Development and Evangelism team?

**Budget for this ministry**

Include a detailed one-year balanced budget including monies allocated for program expenses, evangelism training (include the ELCA’s evangelism training expenses) and coaching reflective of your synod context. Compensation may be included; however, a financial sustainability plan must be developed and submitted with the grant proposal.

Be sure that it is a balanced budget with the projected expenses and income matching. Local and synod dollars must exceed churchwide grant request.

When you confirm the contributions of your synod, conference, congregations, and other supporters, it is very helpful to create “Letters of Intent” where each leadership team/council creates a written, signed, and dated document of how much they will contribute to the ministry so that the ministry knows it can count on these funds. You may attach these letters to your proposal.

Congregational Outreach Ministry grants are one-year grants, intended for seed money to expand their evangelizing practices and outreach, while building local ministry partner and financial supports to continue the ministry beyond the first year. After one year, the congregation may be eligible to apply again through the Review Table.

**Additional and Optional**

* 1. Attach/Add a list of names of initial ministry participants.
	2. Attach/Add a list of community leaders who will be contacted to learn more about their context, including the communities they serve, as well as their experiences of best practices.