

Approved April 2015

**Minutes of the Executive Committee of the
Presbyterian Mission Agency Board
Of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
Conference Call**

January 22, 2015

CALL TO ORDER Marilyn Gamm, Chair, called the meeting of the Executive Committee of the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board (“the Board”) to order with prayer.

ATTENDANCE Gamm called upon Ms. Susan Abraham, recorder for the meeting, to call the roll. A quorum was declared present for the transaction of business.

MEMBERS PRESENT Marsha Zell Anson – Member-at-large
James Ephraim, Jr. – Chair, Justice Committee
Marilyn Gamm – Chair, Presbyterian Mission Agency Board
Chad Herring – Chair, Finance Committee
Mary Jorgenson – Member-at-large
Mihee Kim-Kort – Member-at-large
David Shinn – Chair, Worshiping Communities Committee
Josephene Stewart – Vice-chair, Presbyterian Mission Agency Board
Kevin Yoho – Chair, Leadership Committee
Linda Valentine – Member ex-officio

Leadership Cabinet Terri Bate – Senior Director, Funds Development Ministry
Kathy Francis – Senior Director, Communications Ministry
Earline Williams – Deputy Executive Director for Shared Services

Recorder Susan Abraham – Staff, Office of the Executive Director

Others Martha Clark – Staff, Office of Legal Services
Barry Creech – Staff, Office of the Executive Director
April Davenport – Staff, Office of Legal Services
Denise Hayden – Staff, Office of the Executive Director
Ruth Gardner – Staff, Human Resources
Chip Hardwick – Staff, Theology, Worship and Education
Mike Kirk – Staff, Office of Legal Services
Kathie Lyvers – Staff, Office of Legal Services
Tim McCallister – Staff, Evangelism and Church Growth
Conrad Rocha – Member, DREAM Team Grant Committee
Lisa Robbins – Staff, Human Resources
Leslie Scanlon – Presbyterian Outlook

**FEBRUARY AND MARCH
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MEETINGS** The Executive Committee agreed to meet on the following days in February and March to deal with upcoming business matters:

- February 20, 2015 at 1:30 p.m. EST

- March 4, 2015 at 2:30 p.m. EST

ACTION 1-EC-012215
DREAM GRANT RECIPIENTS

Conrad Rocha, a member of the DREAM (Developmental, Risky, Experimental, Adaptive Mission) Team Grant Committee presented the report of the committee.

The Presbyterian Mission Agency Board Executive Committee **VOTED** to approve the following applicants as the 2014 DREAM Grant recipients. These applicants were selected and recommended by the DREAM Team members at their December 16, 2014 meeting to receive a one-time grant of up to \$10,000 ([Appendix 1](#)):

1. **Eden 99185, Synod of Alaska-Northwest, Inland Northwest Presbytery – \$10,000**
2. **Verge 2.0, Synod of Alaska-Northwest, Northwest Coast Presbytery – \$5,000**
3. **Diakonos Initiative, Synod Boriquen in Puerto Rico, Northwest Presbytery – \$10,000**
4. **Dinner Church, Synod of the Rocky Mountains, Plains and Peaks – \$10,000**
5. **Rocky Mountain Mission, Synod of the Rocky Mountains, Plains and Peaks Presbytery – \$10,000**
6. **Yellowstone-Whitworth Rural Ministry, Synod of the Rocky Mountains, Yellowstone Presbytery – \$10,000**
7. **Leadership for Rural and Racial Ethnic Ministries, Synod of the Southwest, De Cristo, Grand Canyon, Santa Fe, Sierra Blanca Presbyteries – \$10,000**
8. **Jemez FAME, Synod of the Southwest, Santa Fe Presbytery – \$10,000**

ACTION 2-EC-012215
DREAM FUND CRITERIA

The Presbyterian Mission Agency Board Executive Committee **VOTED** to grant to the DREAM Team members permission to update the 2014 criteria, set future grant application deadlines, and make future awards subject to the availability of funds and the final approval of the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board Executive Committee ([Appendix 1](#)).

ACTION 3-EC-012215
DREAM TEAM GRANT COMMITTEE VOTING MEMBERS

The Presbyterian Mission Agency Board Executive Committee **VOTED** to confirm the appointment of Teaching Elder David Ezekiel, Ruling Elder Salvador Gravalda, Ruling Elder Conrad Rocha, Ruling Elder Dean Strong, and Teaching Elder Wendy Tajima as the voting members of the Dream Team Grant Committee; and, that future members be added to the Committee, as may be helpful, based upon recommendation of the Dream Team Grant Committee members and subject to the approval of the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board Executive Committee ([Appendix 1](#)).

HOLY COMMUNION

Gamm reported that she and the vice-chair, Jo Stewart, had approved a request from the Evangelism and Church Growth Ministry Area to serve Holy Communion at the following events held on January 19-23, 2015 at the Tradewinds in St. Pete Beach, Florida ([Appendix 2](#)):

1. Coach Training

2. Foundations In Discipleship

UPDATE ON 1001

The Executive Committee received an update from Chip Hardwick on the results of verifying with presbyteries the number of new worshipping communities.

**ACTION 4-EC-012215
CONVENE IN CLOSED
SESSION**

The Executive Committee **VOTED** to convene in closed session at 2:04 p.m. to discuss personnel, property, and litigation matters with only voting members of the Executive Committee to attend the closed session, and with the following individuals to attend portions or all of the meeting:

1. Linda Valentine
2. Barry Creech
3. Susan Abraham
4. Denise Hayden
5. Martha Clark
6. Mike Kirk
7. Kathie Lyvers
8. Lisa Robbins
9. Ruth Gardner
10. Earline Williams
11. Chip Hardwick
12. Kathy Francis
13. Terri Bate

**ACTION 5-EC-012215
RISE FROM CLOSED
SESSION**

The Executive Committee **VOTED** to rise from closed session at 5:07 p.m. There were no actions taken in closed session.

**ADJOURNMENT AND
CLOSING PRAYER**

There being no further business, the meeting of the Executive Committee was closed with prayer at 5:07 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marilyn Gamm
Chair, Presbyterian Mission Agency Board

Linda Valentine
Executive Director, Presbyterian Mission Agency

ACTION ITEM

Subject: 2014 Developmental, Risky, Experimental, Adaptive Mission (DREAM) Grant

Recommendation(s):

- 1. That the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board Executive Committee approve the following applicants as the 2014 DREAM Grant recipients. These applicants were selected and recommended by the DREAM Team members at their December 16, 2014 meeting to receive a one-time grant of up to \$10,000.**

During 2014, preference was given to ministries that fall within the bounds of Synod of Alaska-Northwest, Boriquen in Puerto Rico, Rocky Mountains and Southwest. We encouraged proposals from mid councils that wished to inspire and support, but not limited to, the following types of *new and creative* ministry ventures:

- Rural, remote, or urban churches that are establishing ministries that will enable them to better accomplish mission in an appropriate context;
- Ministries that are charged with reaching, loving and teaching college age or young adults so that they may be lifelong followers of Jesus Christ;
- Congregations that are effectively becoming more multi-ethnic in character;
- Ministries with Racial/Ethnic and New Immigrant populations that are thriving and wish to accomplish even more;
- Emerging leadership models for mid councils that create safe space for innovation.

Utilizing the above guidelines, the following 8 grants totally \$75,000.00 were approved by the Team.

Eden 99185, Synod of Alaska-Northwest, Inland Northwest Presbytery - \$10,000

An empty lot next to Community Presbyterian Church in Wilbur, Washington, was transformed into a community garden in the shape of Jerusalem cross. With this connection, the community has responded to the church helping worship to become more vital, small groups and Sunday school more active, and a returning youth group. Community Presbyterian Church provided the land and a partner Lutheran church provided funding for seeds.

Verge 2.0, Synod of Alaska-Northwest, Northwest Coast Presbytery - \$5,000

Verge 2.0 plans to create a ministry convocation modeled after the wildly effective TED conferences. This will be one way to focus on mission engagement in the Pacific Northwest. It will feature ministry leader speakers who are engaged in risk taking adventures—who will give a “presentation of their life” in 18-minutes.

Diakonos Initiative, Synod Boriquen in Puerto Rico, Northwest Presbytery- \$10,000

Diakonos, in collaboration with congregations, presbytery, and the synod, will create a leadership formation initiative for youth and young adults. They will seek creative ways for potential leaders to serve, especially looking for possible avenues for mission development. Through this context, it is envisioned that people will be mentored, and that those providing the mentoring will meet regularly for personal and spiritual growth.

Dinner Church, Synod of the Rocky Mountains, Plains & Peaks Presbytery- \$10,000

Family of Christ in Greeley, Colorado celebrated their 40-year anniversary with an invitation to community members for a meal. Guests were slow to arrive, but as they did, the community began filling the sanctuary, even spilling out into the narthex. Some who had never been to worship remained and went outside for a barbeque meal on the lawn. This mixed gathering of persons – elders, Millennials,

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immigrant families, native Coloradoans, cradle to grave Presbyterians, and un-churched seekers – occurred because the church has invested heavily in the community. Some of the church's outreach efforts have been through a community garden, theater ministries, and working to deepen relationships with immigrant families after a raid took place in their community back in 2006. Family of Christ will host a weekly Sunday night dinner service/worship with Dream Grant funding.

Rocky Mountain Mission, Synod of the Rocky Mountains, Plains & Peaks Presbytery- \$10,000

Nederland Community Presbyterian will utilize DREAM Grant Funds to develop a summer youth mission group program, arrange service projects, and provide curriculum and leadership to help the participating young people reflect on their experiences. This vision of mission was sparked by a dozen teenagers from two churches who gathered for a weekend mission blitz in March of 2014. One of the projects supported by the church was to refurbish an elderly woman's cabin; the woman lived at an altitude of 9,000 feet, struggled to breathe, and had no electricity or running water. Another project was working on a town park that had been damaged by flooding. They have also worked in several Food Pantry gardens that provide nourishment for hundreds of people in the greater mountain area.

Yellowstone-Whitworth Rural Ministry, Synod of the Rocky Mountains, Yellowstone Presbytery - \$10,000

The presbytery will create a student internship program in collaboration with Whitworth University (Spokane, WA) to serve in rural, remote, and small towns across the vast and varied 'Big Sky' country. Interns will be in a relationally based model of discipleship, spiritual formation, and service to the community. This endeavor is to provide opportunities to the students in learning and practicing adaptive, contextualized ministry both in and through congregations.

Leadership for Rural & Racial Ethnic Ministries, Synod of the Southwest, De Cristo, Grand Canyon, Santa Fe, Sierra Blanca Presbyteries- \$10,000

The synod will utilize the funds to create a Commission for Racial Equality (CRE) training program located in Native American and Hispanic communities. Pastors from these communities will team with pastors from urban centers to broaden connectivity between racial-ethnic churches and others through the constituent presbyteries.

Jemez FAME, Synod of the Southwest, Santa Fe Presbytery - \$10,000

Jemez Spring Presbyterian Church has served the Jemez Valley for 133 years. After going through New Beginnings, this church of 25 (that has had a part-time pastor for 13 years) began recognizing the significant need for an after school program in the community. The church will employ the monies received to provide space and materials needed by the students. While this is a new mission venture, education has always been in Jemez's DNA as the church served as the village schoolhouse long before public education came to the area.

- 2. That the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board Executive Committee grant to the DREAM Team members permission to update the 2014 criteria, set future grant application deadlines, and make future awards subject to the availability of funds and the final approval of the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board Executive Committee.**

Background:

Historically, the National Mission Partnership Funds (NMPF) provided funding for many ministry efforts around the denomination, but this system of funds sharing ended on December 31, 2013.

In response the Developmental, Risky, Experimental, Adaptive Mission (DREAM) Grant is being offered by the Presbyterian Mission Agency in order to encourage dreamers, risk-takers, pioneers and trailblazers.

This grant is designed to encourage the birth of new ventures through congregations and presbyteries rather than to support the expansion of existing programs within congregations. For the purpose of this

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grant, new is defined to be an initiative that was created no earlier than January 1, 2013. This grant will be offered as long as resources are available. *This grant will not support the creation of new worshiping communities and congregations.*

An initiative may ordinarily receive a one-time DREAM Grant of up to \$10,000. These grants are intended to support operating/program purposes such as salary and benefits, insurance, rent, educational materials, etc... These grants are limited to ministries that are related to the Presbyterian Church (USA), and are located within the United States and Puerto Rico.

- 3. That the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board Executive Committee confirm the appointment of Teaching Elder David Ezekiel, Ruling Elder Salvador Gravalda, Ruling Elder Conrad Rocha, Ruling Elder Dean Strong, and Ruling Elder Wendy Tajima as the voting members of the Dream Team Grant Committee; and, that future members be added to the Committee, as may be helpful, based upon recommendation of the Dream Team Grant Committee members and subject to the approval of the Presbyterian Mission Agency Board Executive Committee.**

FOR INFORMATION

Subject: Request to Serve Holy Communion

The Chair and Vice-Chair of the Board approved the request from the Evangelism and Church Growth Ministry Area to serve Holy Communion at the following events to be held on January 19-23, 2015 at the Tradewinds in St. Pete Beach, Florida:

1. Coach Training
2. Foundations In Discipleship