



THE CHURCH OF THE   
**GOOD SHEPHERD**

2026 Outreach Grants Application

Thank you for all that your organization accomplishes for our community. To be considered for a grant, your completed application must be received in the Church office by **May 1, 2026**. (Mail to PO Box 32, Cashiers, NC 28717 or email a PDF of the application to [OutreachGrants@goodshepherdcashiers.org](mailto:OutreachGrants@goodshepherdcashiers.org)) Questions: call 828-743-2359.

I. Organization Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Executive Director/Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Website (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

II. Brief Project Description (one line) \_\_\_\_\_

III. Amount Requested \_\_\_\_\_

IV. A narrative explaining 1) how the funding will be used, 2) the approximate number of Jackson or Macon County residents that will benefit from this funding, 3) if this is part of a larger effort, the full budget with all other funding sources, and 4) how you will measure the success of this program or project.

V. Financial and Other Supporting Information Required:

1. If you received funding from Good Shepherd last year, tell us how the funds were used.
2. Your agency's mission statement. If you don't have one, provide a description of your agency's mission and purpose.
3. The target population you serve and the approximate number of those served on a monthly or yearly basis.
4. If your agency is located outside Jackson and Macon County, please indicate the approximate number of Jackson and Macon County residents you served in the past year.
5. Your IRS 990 form.
6. An itemized list of all grants received in the past 12 months.
7. Your total budget for the current calendar or fiscal year.
8. A balance sheet and financial report/statement of actual revenues and expenses for the preceding calendar or fiscal year showing major categories of all revenues and expenses.
9. A list of your board membership. Without mentioning specific names or amounts, what percentage of board members contributed to the agency in the last year and what was the total amount? What non-financial support does the board contribute?
10. Do not include other ancillary documents.

Please check one: Our organization is a:

501 (c) 3 organization       Non Profit      Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank you again for what you do to make our community a better place for all.**

# Church of the Good Shepherd Outreach Grants Committee

## Mission Statement and Guidelines

We on the Outreach Grants Committee serve in a way that models Jesus's character and The Church of the Good Shepherd's mission statement of *Reflecting God's Love Through our Faith in Action*. The Outreach Grants Committee is responsible for the distribution of funds to eligible agencies primarily on the Cashiers-Highlands Plateau. The committee solicits, evaluates, and awards grants on an annual basis. In these tasks, we are guided by Mathew 25 verses 35-36, "*For I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat (Food Insecurity), I was thirsty, and you gave me something to drink (Food Insecurity), I was a stranger, and you invited me in (Shelter and Housing), I needed clothes and you clothed me (Other Human Services), I was sick and you looked after me (Health), I was in prison and you came to visit me (Other Human Services)*". In addition, our focus includes education, wellness, and environmental protection.

### Eligible Agencies and Requests Considered

- Tax exempt as described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
- Located and / or primarily serving a population on the Cashiers-Highlands Plateau. Preference will be given to local agencies or national agencies that have a regular presence in our immediate area.
- The highest consideration will be given to requests that are guided by Matthew 25 verses 35-36, exhibit the greatest community benefit, and do not duplicate services already provided by other local agencies.
- Aligned with the teachings and philosophy of the Episcopal Church.
- Infrastructure grant requests that enhance or support a specific program will be considered. Rehabilitation or maintenance infrastructure requests may not be considered.
- Grants to foundations are generally discouraged. However, Private Operating Foundations that primarily conduct their own charitable activities rather than funding the initiatives of other organizations may be considered.
- Only one grant application per organization will be considered.

### General Guidelines for Applicants

- Applications are available from the Church of the Good Shepherd on **April 1**.
- Applications will be submitted online and due no later than **May 1**.
- Incomplete Applications will not be considered.
- Funding requests may involve operational support or capital projects. Applicants are encouraged to consider grant requests that are aspirational, ones that make a greater impact on the community or the constituents that are served.
- Agencies must demonstrate they primarily serve residents of the Cashiers- Highlands Plateau and what percentage of their client base resides on the plateau.
- Agencies may be called upon to make a presentation to the Outreach Committee or be available to meet with members of the committee.
- Details of previous grant recipients, types of grants, and total yearly awards are available on the Church of the Good Shepherd website.
- Applicants will be notified about the result of their request on or around **August 1<sup>st</sup>**.