



THE SAM & HELEN R. WALTON AWARD NOMINATION

DATE PREPARED

SYNOD		
SYNOD NAME	CONTACT PERSON	
PHONE	EMAIL ADDRESS	
PRESBYTERY		
PRESBYTERY NAME	CONTACT PERSON	
PHONE	EMAIL ADDRESS	
PERSON MAKING NOMINATION	EMAIL ADDRESS	PHONE
NEW WORSHIPING COMMUNITY (NWC) NAME	PIN #	
MAILING ADDRESS	WEBSITE ADDRESS	
PASTOR	DATE OF ARRIVAL OF ORGANIZING PASTOR	
PHONE	EMAIL ADDRESS	
START UP DATE AS DEFINED BY PRESBYTERY	IF CHARTERED, PROVIDE DATE	

BRIEF STATISTICAL INFORMATION

Current Attendance	Original Attendance Projection
Current Membership	Original Membership Projection
Total Current Year Operating Budget (Income and Expense) *\$	
Basic Mission Support \$	Basic Mission Support Percentage**
Average Per Member Giving \$	
Loan Delinquencies? Yes No	Pension Contributions Current? Yes No
Per Capita Current? Yes No	Received Interim Unified Agency Mission Program Grant? Yes No

*Actual dollar amount in current year operating budget.

**As an expression of connectional stewardship, it is a requirement that at least 5% of a NWC's operating budget be directed to Basic Mission Support (i.e., presbytery, synod and the Interim Unified Agency). NWCs should also exhibit a clear desire to be generous by committing an additional 5% of their operating budget in support of those outside the NWC through local, national and global mission work. Basic Mission Support is the total of all monies given to presbytery, synod and Interim Unified Agency Board entities, including payments toward the mission budgets of these entities.



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nwcgrants@pcusa.org

Racial Ethnic Identification: (please check one)			
African American	Asian	Caucasian	Hispanic
Multicultural	Native American	Other (Please Specify)	
Demographic Identification: (please check one)			
Agricultura	Agricultura	College/University	Inner City
Resort	Retirement	Retirement	Retirement
Rural	Suburban	Town	Urban
Other (Please Specify)			

ATTACHMENTS

1. Prepare a one-page narrative (not to exceed one 8 1/2 x 11 page) describing the following areas:
 - Statement of progress toward goals.
 - Statement of how the NWC fulfills the Walton Award criteria.
 - Statement of why the NWC should receive the award.
 - Include the mission statement (vision) of the NWC.
2. Attach a copy of the current year income, expense, and capital budgets and corresponding budgets for the year(s) in which the award will be used. These budgets must be included for the nomination to be considered.
3. Please include photos and/or videos that best represent the people and ministry of your NWC. Please make this material only available via links on sharing websites such as YouTube, SnapChat, Facebook, etc.

Please do not send additional materials such as DVDs, newsletters, etc. This material is not required and will not be accepted or reviewed by the Mission Development Resources Committee during the selection process.

NOTE: If any signing below is a current member of the Interim Unified Agency Board, please inform the Office of Mission Program Grants Staff.

Signature of Presbytery Executive/General Presbyter	Title	Date
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THE SAM & HELEN R. WALTON AWARD PROGRAM

INTRODUCTION

In late December 1991, Sam and Helen R. Walton made a generous gift through the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Foundation of six million dollars. This gift included an endowment in the amount of three million dollars. The earned interest is to be used by outstanding New Worshiping Communities (NWCs) that have placed an emphasis on site acquisition.

The Mission Development Resources Committee (MDRC), an elected body of the Interim Unified Agency Board, offers an opportunity annually to new worshiping communities, congregations, presbyteries and synods to nominate NWCs that are working in creative ways to bring the gospel to their local communities. Each selected NWC will receive a one-time financial award of up to \$50,000. This award is made over, and above funding received from other Interim Unified Agency sources, i.e., mission program grants, loan funds. The number of projects nominated annually by the MDRC is based on funds available.

The intent of the MDRC is in keeping with the June 1992 action of the Evangelism and Church Development Ministry Unit "to be as inclusive as possible in making grant selections with a goal that at least 20% of the projects be racial ethnic new church developments (NWCs)."

For the granting of the Walton Awards, the MDRC considers the status of a NWC as defined by the presbytery. Ordinarily, Walton Awards will be given to NWCs that have been worshiping between five – ten years, as recognized by the presbytery.

ALLOWABLE USES

The Walton Award may be used for the following purposes:

- A. Site acquisition
- B. Planning, design, site prep or construction costs, space rental and tenant improvement costs, renovations to space, parking lot improvements or acquisition.
- C. Reinvesting monies – The interest earned is to be reinvested into the corpus for later use in one of the other listed allowable uses.

The interest earned from the invested award funds may also be used for an evangelism and nurture program, training events for worshiping community leaders in church growth, advertising, i.e., promoting the worshiping community's mission, message & program. Such uses of the funds are for short-term periods where the worshiping community is holding the funds for later use on one of the allowable uses. This is to be done in consultation with the presbytery.

When the award is used for other than site acquisition (as noted in Item A above), consultation with the presbytery is required and the NWC and the presbytery shall prepare plans for the intended uses of the award. Copies of these plans shall be submitted to the MDRC prior to the release of funds

The award funds are to be used within five years of being received.

CRITERIA

The criteria on which a nomination is based are intended to assist the NWC in discovering how the NWC would describe itself in terms of what it means to be faithful to the gospel. It is also important to learn what the NWC has to teach the wider church about faithfulness in mission and ministry. The criteria are:

1. The Ministry Plan of the NWC advances the Great Ends of the Church (F-1.0304) as evidenced by goals that:
 - Intend to reach the unchurched for Jesus Christ through the proclamation of the gospel.
 - Intend to nurture members in the trust of the gospel and in discipleship through worship, education, spiritual formation, stewardship, and social witness.
 - Intend to promote social righteousness and exhibit the Kingdom of Heaven to the world consistent with the highest ideals of the Presbyterian heritage.

For example, is the goal of the NWC to provide programs that meet the needs of established Presbyterians



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- or to meet the needs of those who have no experience in Christian faith and practice? Do the goals evidence an intention to reach Presbyterian Christians where there were none before? Does the NWC demonstrate some risk to establish a NWC in-order to make a statement about what it means to be Christian, Reformed, and Presbyterian?
2. The goals of the Ministry Plan of the NWC have met or exceeded expectations for the project as evidenced by:
 - Numerical growth in membership consistent with projected growth based on demographic analysis of the community.
 - Strength of discipleship through active participation in programs of worship, fellowship, education, spiritual formation, evangelism and social witness.
 - Strength of stewardship equal to or greater than the presbytery average.
 - High visibility in the community as a center for Christian witness, peacemaking, and social change consistent with the highest ideals of the Presbyterian heritage.
 3. All financial obligations are current when:
 - Contributions to Presbyterian Basic Mission Support/Mission Giving (the total of all monies given to presbytery, synod, and Interim Unified Agency entities, including payments toward the mission budgets of these entities) meet at least 5% of the NWC's operating budget and an additional 5% of the operating budget in support of those outside the NWC through local, national and global mission work.
 - There are no loan delinquencies.
 - Pension contributions are current.
 - Per Capita is current (if applicable).

The intent of these criteria is to acknowledge those emerging NWCs that are reaching their full potential based on location and the Ministry Plan.

NOMINATION PROCEDURES

1. Complete the nomination form and narrative (with attachments) and mail the signed original to the address noted above or forward Adobe Acrobat images of the finished document to the e-mail addresses listed above early enough to be received by the published date. In 2025, this date is July 1st for committee consideration in the third quarter review meeting.
2. Articulate the intended uses of the grant per the guidelines for allowable uses.
3. A previously nominated NWC that did not receive an award may be re-nominated, if the ministry still qualifies as a NWC.
4. Ecumenical NWCs qualify for nomination.
5. Secure signature of the presbytery executive/general presbyter or designee indicating that the information provided on the nomination form fulfills the criteria and guidelines governing the Walton Award Program.

SELECTION PROCEDURES

1. Nominees will be assigned to MDRC members for follow-up conversations with the person or persons making the nominations. If necessary, the MDRC member may contact the pastor of the NWC, or other persons related to the NWC for further information. For projects currently receiving Mission Program Grant funding, information contained in the prior year Annual Progress Report will be used by the MDRC during the selection process.
2. The MDRC will select nominees and will present them for endorsement to the Interim Unified Agency Board Executive Committee.
3. Recipients will be informed by letter of the award. A check will be issued in a separate mailing to the awardees' presbytery in a timely manner.
4. At the request of the Mission Program Grants Office and the Walton Foundation, recipients may be required to make annual reports on the use of the funds and the work of their NWC.