



Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
*God's work. Our hands.*

305 E Street, NW • Suite 300 • Washington, D.C. • 20001

## **Disaster Accompaniment Loan Fund**

### **Purpose**

The Disaster Accompaniment Loan Fund is established to support rostered ministers and congregations of the Metropolitan Washington, DC Synod dealing with financial challenges resulting from an external event that causes the congregation's income to drop precipitously and unexpectedly.

While established during the COVID-19 Pandemic, this fund is intended to allow response to a broad range of crises that a congregation may face, such as, but not limited to fire, flood, and storm. Funds may act as a loan to support a congregation while awaiting insurance settlement or they may be used to cover on-going expenses to support ministry such as (but not limited to) staff salaries, benefits, and mortgage/rent.

### **Source of Funds**

Initially funded by the Synod Council with \$10,000 from the Congregational Mission Fund, the fund will be supported through restricted contributions from congregations and individuals within the Synod. The fund is intended to be self-sustaining as loans are repaid.

### **Management of the Fund**

The Disaster Accompaniment Loan Fund will be managed by the New and Renewing Missions Table (NRMT). The NRMT will

- Receive and review applications for funds against the criteria and
- Forward applications and the NRMT recommendations to the Synod Council for action.

Recommendations will include the amount to be awarded and the loan payment plan

### **Distribution / Criteria**

Use of this fund is determined by the Synod Council at the recommendation of the NRMT and the bishop. Successful applications must demonstrate:

- Active ministries that currently benefit the community (especially but not limited to feeding programs, preschool as a ministry of the congregation, homeless housing, community outreach ministries, community gathering place for 12 step groups).
- Capacity to continue ministries for several years beyond the crises
- History of involvement in Metro D.C. Synod (mission support, attendance at assembly, collegial participation of pastor)
- Staff that includes a pastor at least ½ time

Priority will be given to applications that:

- Assist Vulnerable and Multi-Ethnic Communities
- Demonstrate creative problem-solving in approaches for ministry have the potential to be replicated in other congregations or organizations

No more 75% of the fund balance will be committed to any single loan.

*In Partnership with:*

*The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Slovakia, The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Namibia, The Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Republic of Namibia, the Evangelisch-Lutherische Kirche in Namibia, and The Lutheran Church in El Salvador*

# Disaster Accompaniment Loan Fund Application

Contact First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Position in Congregation: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Congregation City and State: \_\_\_\_\_

## REQUEST DETAILS

Amount Requesting: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Need: \_\_\_\_\_

How will the funds be used?

*Funds may act as a loan to support a congregation while awaiting insurance settlement or they may be used to cover on-going expenses to support ministry such as, but not limited to, staff salaries, benefits, and mortgage/rent:*

\_\_\_\_\_

What management processes are/will be in place to track the use and reporting of funds?

\_\_\_\_\_

**DESCRIPTION OF NEED**

Describe active ministries that currently benefit the community (*especially but not limited to feeding programs, preschool as a ministry of the congregation, homeless housing, community outreach ministries, community gathering place for 12 step groups*).

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Which, if any, of the ministries listed above are vulnerable and/or multi-ethnic ministries?

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Describe the congregation’s capacity to continue ministries for several years beyond the crises.

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Describe the congregation’s history of involvement in the Metro D.C. Synod. (*attendance at assembly, collegial participation of pastor, etc.*)

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Has the congregation received funds from the synod in the past • Yes • No

If Yes, please share the circumstances: \_\_\_\_\_

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Current level of Synod Mission Support    Intent: \_\_\_\_\_    Actual: \_\_\_\_\_

Detail the current paid staffing structure (*rostered and lay, full and part time*):

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Name of any other funding sources confirmed or being sought:

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**CONGREGATIONAL LEADERSHIP**

Rostered Minister Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

President of Council Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Treasurer Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Please Attach Current Budget

Return completed form to The Rev. Lamar Bailey, Assistant to the Bishop and Director of Evangelical Mission, [lbailey@metrodcclca.org](mailto:lbailey@metrodcclca.org) and The Rev Shannon Anderson, New and Renewing Mission Table Chair [shannon@myplc.org](mailto:shannon@myplc.org) .