

2024 THANK OFFERING OF PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN



You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with

many thanksgivings to God.

—2 Corinthians 9:11–12

Each year participants in Presbyterian Women (and friends!) heed the call of Paul to “supply the needs of the saints” through giving to the PW Thank Offering. This grant making program originated in 1888 with one generous woman, Eliza Clokey of Springfield, Ohio, who urged everyone to give one dollar over and above their usual contribution to the Women’s General Missionary Society. Presbyterian Women in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) adopted the Thank Offering in 1988 as one of the two national grant making programs. Since then, organizations in the United States and around the world have benefited from the overflowing of thanksgiving to God shown by Presbyterian women through their offerings.

Eliza called upon women to give a “thank offering to her Lord” and support mission initiatives at home and abroad. Today we continue to answer that call through support of the PW Thank Offering. When we come together to pool our money as Presbyterian Women, we can make a much greater impact than we can on our own. With the help from this year’s grants, babies receive a warm welcome into the world, children and youth are cared for, and vulnerable people encounter the love of God through people who accompany and advocate for them.

In 2024 the Creative Ministries Offering Committee of Presbyterian Women read, prayed over and selected eight projects for funding. Six of the projects serve people in the United States and two are international. In keeping with the Thank Offering bylaws, more than forty percent of the selected projects are related to health ministries.





2024 THANK OFFERING

SYNOD OF LAKES AND PRAIRIES

Dakota Presbytery

Pine Ridge Indian Reservation

Waniyetu Consulting

Welcoming of the Child

\$18,000

Waniyetu Consulting empowers young mothers by providing teaching and direction for their role as a parent. This grant will fund a program to bring back the Welcoming of the Baby ceremony, one of the oldest and most significant ceremonies in Lakota culture. During the Oglala Lakota ceremony, new mothers are taught the traditions of protecting the baby's fontanel (soft spot) from harm or sickness and the sacred connection to walking in balance. This ceremony celebrates the birth and provides an opportunity to teach parenting skills such as nutrition, nurturing baby care and healthy relationships. A Lakota elder is invited to speak about their traditions, which connects the generations and provides important lessons on motherhood and the sacredness of caring for the child.



SYNOD OF THE MID-ATLANTIC

Presbytery of the James

Voices of Jubilee

Crossing Borders Accompaniment

\$37,160

voicesofjubilee.org

Voices of Jubilee brings together incarcerated youth and their families with mentors who have experienced incarceration and others who want to help. They provide pastoral care for youth and advocate for a judicial system that responds to harm and violence with accountability and restoration. This project provides support for youth who are in detention and in prison in Virginia, along with their families. The Thank Offering grant will provide essential mentors, restorative justice training and hospitality dinners to create communities that transform lives and embody the hope of the Gospel, even in a harmful judicial system.

PW GRANT RECIPIENTS



SYNOD OF THE MID-ATLANTIC

Presbytery of New Hope

SAFEchild

Technology at SAFEchild Advocacy Center

\$50,000

safechildnc.org

SAFEchild (Stop Abuse for Every Child) is the leading voice for child abuse prevention through evaluation, intervention and treatment in Wake County, North Carolina. Specialized interviews are often a turning point in children's lives, placing them on a path to recovery. The Thank Offering grant will provide for the purchase of discrete cameras and microphones to record interviews at SAFEchild's advocacy center. Through prevention and intervention services, this program offers children and families a safer future, where they can find support and live into their true capabilities and callings.



SYNOD OF SOUTH ATLANTIC

Central Florida Presbytery

Forward Paths Foundation, Inc.

Homes to Independence

—Housing for Homeless Youth

\$50,000

forwardpaths.org

Forward Paths Foundation works to positively influence at-risk youth in Lake County, Florida, with the support needed to complete high school, attain a consistent work history and learn financial management skills. The Thank Offering grant will help expand their services to homeless, unaccompanied youth and those who have reached the age of 18 and are no longer eligible for foster care. By providing housing and a personalized plan for each youth, this program makes possible a future for them to have meaningful work and relationships, and to live independently by the time they are age 25.

PW GRANT RECIPIENTS (CONT.)

SYNOD OF THE TRINITY

Presbytery of Carlisle

Peace Promise

Kitchen Renovation

\$25,000

peacepromise.org

Peace Promise offers advocacy, education and economic empowerment to survivors of sexual exploitation and human trafficking in the Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, area. The Thank Offering grant will help equip and renovate a kitchen that will serve as a central location for two new social enterprises, Ruby Coffee + Co. and Soaps By Survivors. These programs will employ survivors and offer mentoring, education and on-the-job training, giving them the opportunity to find peace and experience the hope of a new tomorrow.



OFFICE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)

Office of Immigration Issues

Public Affairs Software

Platform for Grassroots Advocacy

\$15,000

pcusa.org/immigration

The Office of Immigration Issues helps PC(USA) churches by providing advice and resources towards a more just immigration system. Advocacy work within the denomination is decentralized so that local needs are addressed. As a result, the church's voice often is not organized to speak out effectively and powerfully. The Thank Offering grant will help purchase software that tracks legislation and gives users a deep understanding of the issues and the ability to contact their lawmakers directly. With the advocacy software, Presbyterians can follow concerns unique to their location and also organize to offer a group voice working for justice and fairness.



DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO (DRC)

Presbyterian Church in Congo (CPC)

Presbyterian Ministries with Vulnerable Children

Protecting Children in Greater Kasai

\$50,000

youtube.com/watch?v=oP6B9G3O4hw

Presbyterian Ministries with Vulnerable Children protects and cares for at-risk children in the DRC through outreach programs in congregations, neighborhoods and schools. The Thank Offering grant will provide training for a project that moves away from centralized programs that rely on physical structures and instead builds local social safety nets. Care of homeless children is offered by host families in CPC congregations, and prevention of child neglect, abuse and abandonment is coordinated by church committees. By building the organizational structure of this community-based effort, this ministry to vulnerable children will become more effective and sustainable for years to come.



HAITI AND SYNOD OF MID-AMERICA

Heartland Presbytery

Higgins Brothers Surgicenter for Hope

Village Presbyterian Church, Prairie Village,

Kansas, fiscal sponsor

Surgicenter Ambulance

\$25,000

higginsbrotherssurgicenter.org

The Higgins Brothers Surgicenter provides the only 24/7 trauma and surgical care available in Fond Parisien, a rural region near the Haitian-Dominican border. Funds from this grant will be used to purchase an ambulance to transport rural patients to the Surgicenter for life-saving emergency care and to safely move stabilized patients to major medical centers. Additionally, the ambulance will enable medical practitioners to visit distant villages where they can treat children, pregnant women and people with chronic conditions or acute illnesses.