

Hands Across Niagara: Call for Grant Applications

Support for Hands Across Niagara is building. Across our region, Anglicans are finding the resources they need to engage God's mission in new and life-changing ways. Thanks to the generosity of Anglicans in our diocese, we are able to fund innovative and life-changing partnerships. Our grants are fostering justice and generating good-news stories across our region. The maximum grant available through Hands Across Niagara in 2015 will be \$5000.

There are a number of steps that ministry groups can take to prepare a successful grant application ahead of the **March 2nd application deadline**:

1. View the descriptions of the projects which received grants last year at <http://www.niagara.anglican.ca/handsacross/>
2. Build connections with local community organizations: successful grant applications will include a description of how your ministry group will work together with a community organization on a project that would be difficult for you (or for them!) to accomplish working alone. Your partner may be another congregation, a local serving agency, or a group engaged in advocacy or activism.
3. Reflect upon the root causes of injustice faced by people in your neighbourhood, or by the natural environment. Successful applicants will propose ministry projects which attempt to redress the conditions which habitually exclude people or the natural world from accessing opportunities to flourish. That is to say, the ministry proposal must describe in detail the area of concern addressed by the ministry plan, and outline how the target population will be empowered to overcome the injustices they face through the work of your partnership in a transformational way that goes beyond compassion.
4. Evaluate the ways your ministry group is already engaging your neighbourhood in partnership with community organizations. It is possible to apply for a grant for an existing ministry provided that the Hands Across Niagara grant will be used to move the existing project in a significantly new direction. For instance, an existing program that has always had a focus on the compassionate response might be eligible for a Hands Across Niagara grant with a ministry plan that adds a significant justice focus to the existing program.
5. Investigate the real costs of the ministry plan you intend to propose. Each application will need to include a budget that lists all sources of funding (received and applied for) and all costs associated with the ministry proposal.
6. Save the date: one representative for each application will need to be present when the granting committee meets on the afternoon of **Friday March 20** to answer any questions the committee may have about the proposal.

Applications may be downloaded at: <http://niagaraanglican.ca/resources/grants>

For more information please contact Bill Mous at 905-527-1316 ext 330.