

Trinity Action Projects – TAP

Initiated October 15, 2009

- The mission of the East Ohio Annual Conference is to be a servant after the model of Jesus Christ.
- The vision of the East Ohio annual Conference is to equip local churches to make and mature disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.
- The vision of the Canal District of the East Ohio Conference is to encourage and assist seventy-seven congregations in the making of disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Adhering to the four suggested foci by the denomination and empowered by the Holy Spirit, the Canal District will directly address two of the foci through the use of Trinity Action Projects (hereafter known as TAP) which was established in September of 2008 for the purpose of mission and ministry among the churches of the Canal District.

- **Develop principles leaders for the church and the world.**
- **Create new places for new people by starting new congregations and renewing existing ones.**

It is believed that by addressing the above two foci, the following two foci will be addressed in significant ways as leaders are recruited and trained for ministry, and new and existing congregations inspire faithful discipleship.

- **Engage in ministry with the poor.**
- **Stamp out diseases and improve health globally.**

With the closing and sale of the Cuyahoga Falls Trinity United Methodist Church, the Canal District has been given an avenue to go above and beyond in addressing 21st Century ministry. Directed by our conference and district vision statements and organized by our district mission statement, the funds generated by TAP will fuel cutting edge ministry to expand God's purposes in our geographic area and beyond.

The biblical foundation for TAP can be found in Proverbs 29:19, "Where there is no vision, the people parish." In the New Testament Jesus assures us that God has a vision for redemption for the world. John 3:16 declares, "For God so loved the world that God gave his only begotten son that everyone who believes in him may not perish, but have eternal life in order that the world might be saved through him."

Spending Policy for TAP

The principle of TAP will be invested in the East Ohio Area Foundation. 5% of the principle of the annual September balance of the fund will be will be tapped on a yearly basis for mission or ministry grants for projects on the Canal District.

The primary task of TAP is to assist churches within the Canal District to identify and carry out NEW ministries and be involved in NEW areas of mission where NEW LEADERS and NEW PLACES for NEW PEOPLE will be developed within the Canal District. Action Projects (TAP) will be offered as “seed money” to assist in the initiation of these NEW missions and NEW ministries.

Application Process for TAP

Any ministry within the Canal District that clearly results in developing leaders/and or new places for new people in and for the Canal District may submit an application to access TAP funding. Additional criteria follows:

- Funds are intended to be for one time grants only
- All applications must include detailed and specific plans for action with a clearly defined path as to how the funds will be used within the year of their receipt. A method of decreasing the “seed money” and a system of fiscal accountability must be in place.
- Funds may not be used for “bricks and mortar.”
- All applicants must apply in person
- Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Yearly Timeline for Trinity Action Projects (TAP) Grants

- In the first year (2009) TAP grant forms will be distributed at the fall Church Conferences. Thereafter the grant forms will be available year round from the District Office.
- Dead line for application in the first year (2010) will be March 1. Thereafter applications will be due January 1.
- Grant recipients will be announced at the yearly Spring District Conference with the grant being dispersed no later than July 1.
- There will be one grant per program. No ongoing projects will be considered.

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- In the event of the decrease of funding needs of a project or the in the failure of a project to fulfill its intended purpose, the TAP Team must be notified.
- All unspent funds must be returned to TAP at the year's end of the project's inception.
- At the end of each funding year each project will be evaluated by the TAP Team, which will make an on-site visit, review the audit of the project and report the results of the project to the Spring Canal District Conference.

The TAP Team

The TAP Team will consist of the following members:

- One member from the Missions Team
- One member from the District Strategy Team
- One member from the finance Team
- The District Lay Leader and the 5 Associate District Lay Leaders
- The Canal District Superintendent

TAP Application Form

PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION

Program Title _____

Sponsoring Church _____

Address _____

E-mail _____

Contact Person _____

Address _____

E-mail _____

Cell Phone _____ Other Phone _____

PROJECT INFORMATION

Describe the project for which TAP will be used including information regarding the following: (attach a complete description)

- How will this project develop NEW leaders in and for the Canal District and/or create NEW places for NEW people in and for the Canal District?
- Who is the target audience for this project?
- What are the demographics of your target area/population?
- How will the project be funded? Include a complete funding plan with continued funding at the close of the first year detailed if applicable. Be sure to include all other funding sources.

