**Diocese of Llandaff Esgobaeth Llandaf**

**Mission Fund**



***The Diocese of Llandaff Mission Fund supports local churches, groups of churches working together, and deaneries, who are seeking to create and offer new ways of being church in the context of their communities or local area.***

**What sort of projects might we support?**

There is no one particular type of project, but some key factors are:

* Faith
* Innovation
* Learning
* Linkage and synergy.

Essentially, this involves making fresh connections between community, church and mission. As it invests in Mission, the fund endeavors to support a changing church in a changing world.

**Type of Project**

The fund seeks to support new initiatives and not existing projects. Examples (not exhaustive) of projects that fall into the criteria that the committee is anxious to encourage are:

* Equipment for a project (but not equipment for general parish purposes)
* New initiatives in outreach and engagement with the local community

Those who consider applications understand that mission comes in different forms and works across all traditions. Common ingredients to successful projects are ones which show:

* Creative ways of building bridges within and between communities
* New ways of being church that connect to the local context
* Appropriate patterns of local mission, alongside others

**Main Grant Criteria**

* All applications must be fully complete.
* Applications must be accompanied by the annual accounts for the last two years for all churches involved in the project.
* Applicants are expected to show how they engaged with the diocesan officer appropriate to the project aims and objectives, and that the officer supports the project.
* Applications will need to show a connection with the Diocesan Vision and where appropriate, our Eco Eglwys Environmental Policy.
* Priority will be given to projects that are operated and managed on a deanery basis, or through a group of parishes working together. Applicants must show how the decision to organize and operate the project was reached, what wider working and partnership options have been considered, and why (or why not) they have been taken up or rejected
* Prior to submission, all applications must be approved through countersignature by the Ministry Area Leader or Lay Chair **and** the appropriate local Area Dean. Forms not signed will be returned.
* Priority will be given to first time applicants.
* Retrospective applications will not be considered under any circumstances.
* Grants must be taken up within one year of the offer being made
* Limited funding is available through the Diocesan Mission Fund. The fund will not give grants where funding might reasonably be expected to be gained elsewhere.
* Grants typically range between £200 to £1500 maximum, although this can be varied by the awarding committee at its discretion.

**Other Criteria**

* The committee may ask for additional supporting information.
* Ministry Areas/Deaneries will be expected to show reasonable financial commitment to a project, and to show evidence of seeking funding from other appropriate trusts and grant making bodies.
* Applications will need to demonstrate that the project would not proceed without funding from the mission fund.
* The application will need to show how the project is directed toward evangelism and church growth.
* Successful applicants will be asked to provide the Grants Committee with update reports at reasonable intervals.
* Parishes will be expected to share details of their projects with others in the diocese through suitable promotion and publicity. This might include an appropriate article and photographs in Croeso.
* The grant will be dependent on the total amount available in the fund.
* Funding requests to support the exploration and development of the use of church buildings for mission and outreach, in particular for new & additional uses, will be considered.
* Grants will not be awarded for building projects. There are other sources of funding available for these projects.
* A one-off grant will be awarded towards the cost of the project.
* The committee reserves the right to visit the project at any stage before, during and after completion, in order to monitor its effectiveness.
* Parishes or groups considering an application to the fund are strongly advised to contact their Archdeacon at an early stage to discuss project concepts and outline proposals. This does not negate the need for a formal application to the fund, which should be made to the secretary. The details of any initial discussions will not form any part of the committee’s decision-making process.

**The Committee**

The Committee meets on a quarterly basis and presents an annual report on its activities to the diocese. Decisions will be notified in writing following the meeting.

**Closing Dates for applications:**

* March 31s, June 30th
* September 30th November 30th