

ECL GETS UTO AWARD

The Episcopal Church of Liberia (ECL), a member of the Province of West Africa has been awarded a grant of US \$52,760.00(fifty two thousand, seven hundred sixty dollars) by the United Thank Offering (UTO).

In awarding the grant, the UTO Board Chair Madam Karin Elsen said please know that the Board and staff are excited to partner with the ECL in your important ministry and give thanks for your witness of Christ's love in the world.

The grant is to be used to provide safe drinking water to 400 vulnerable households (about 2,000 persons) residing around the Good Samaritan Episcopal Church and St. Thomas Episcopal Chapel in the Johnsonville community. The project will increase access to safe and clean drinking water and positively impact the wellbeing of the targeted population. The selection of the project and location is based on the serious difficulties faced by inhabitants accessing safe drinking water during the dry season (December – April) when wells are dried resulting to people sourcing water from polluted wells and nearby creeks.

In a communication addressed to the United Thank Offering Board Chair, the Bishop of the Episcopal Church of Liberia Dr. James B. Sellee extended sincere compliments to her and the entire United Thank Offering (UTO) Board for the great opportunity given to the Episcopal Church of Liberia. He said, on behalf of our Diocese, the ECL UTO leadership, the Board of Trustees and my family, we wish to thank you so graciously for this kind offering.

Bishop Sellee said, the ECL is very excited to contribute to the wellbeing of Episcopalians within close proximity of her churches and other community dwellers who are in dire need of unrestricted access to safe and clean drinking water throughout the year. We believe this UTO Grant will better position the ECL to enhance its evangelistic programs and contribute to the general community empowerment. Bishop Sellee assured the UTO that the ECL will work with the implementation team to ensure a successful delivery of the project as contained in the grant document.

The United Thank Offering (UTO) is a ministry of The Episcopal Church for the mission of the whole church. Through UTO, individuals are invited to embrace and deepen a personal daily spiritual discipline of gratitude. UTO encourages people to notice the good things that happen each day, give thanks to God for those blessings and make an offering for each blessing using a UTO Blue Box. UTO is entrusted to receive the offerings, and to distribute the 100% of what is collected to support innovative mission and ministry throughout The Episcopal Church and Provinces of the Anglican Communion.

Every grant that UTO awards comes from the generous donations and thank offerings of Episcopalians throughout the church and the Anglican Communion.

On behalf of the Episcopal Church of Liberia (ECL), I wish to extend our sincere compliments to you and the entire United Thank Offering (UTO) Board for this great opportunity you have given us, the Episcopal Church of Liberia.

Please permit me to express the ECL acceptance and great appreciation for the UTO Grant Award of US\$52,760.00 (Fifty-two Thousand Seven Hundred Sixty United States Dollars) for the provision of safe and clean drinking water to vulnerable families in Johnsonville, Liberia. The ECL is very excited to contribute to the wellbeing of Episcopalians within close proximity of our churches and other community dwellers who are in dire need of unrestricted access to safe and clean drinking water throughout the year. We believe this UTO Grant will better position the ECL to enhance its evangelistic programs and contribute to the general community empowerment.

On behalf of our Diocese, the ECL UTO leadership, the Board of Trustees and my family, we wish to thank you so graciously for this kind offering.

Also, permit me to extend special thanks and appreciation to Rev. Fr. Dr. Daniel Karanja and Canon Heather Melton for their tireless efforts in providing guidance to us and ensuring that we followed the rules and regulations governing the application process. Kindly be assured that we will work with our implementation team to ensure a successful delivery as contained in the grant document. May God richly bless all of you and the entire UTO Board.

Congratulations! Your grant application was selected for funding by the United Thank Offering Board. By accepting this grant, your diocese agrees to be solely responsible for disbursement and management of this grant, and that it will be used exclusively for the purpose awarded as outlined in the submitted budget. Your grant will be paid out as indicated on your grant processing form that you included with your application. If the grant processing form is no longer correct, please contact Heather Melton immediately at hmelton@episcopalchurch.org. The completion of this project must not exceed the allotted period of twelve (12) months from the date of payment. However, we know that some projects don't proceed according to plan so if that is the case, you may apply for an extension of up to an additional year. Your final report and accounting are due on or before J u l y 1 , 2 0 2 6 . Please see the attached sheet: "UTO Grant Reporting Process" for more information on all of the grant reports and requirements during your funding year. Please contact Heather Melton with any questions at hmelton@episcopalchurch.org. Please note that we also ask your help in sharing the story of your grant and the funding from UTO in the hopes of encouraging more Episcopalians in your diocese to participate in UTO. As a reminder, your grant was made available to you because of the generous donations of UTO members last year. This includes (1) an initial report that we will use in our fall UTO resources (brief narrative for use on social media and photos and/or videos) by August 25; (2) the UTO logo and credit to UTO for funding the project must be included on any materials produced as a part of this project and must appear on the website for the grant project; and (3) you must submit an article for your diocesan publications sharing the story of your UTO grant award and forward a copy for your file and the archives. In the meantime, please help us promote the United Thank Offering by encouraging the individuals in your diocese to participate in UTO, or by giving online at www.unitedthankoffering.com/give so the Board can continue to award grants for worthwhile ministries. Please know that the Board and staff are excited to partner with you in your important

ministry and give thanks for your witness of Christ's love in the world. If we can be of further assistance to you over the next year as you complete the granting process, please let us know.

Dear Grant Recipient, Congratulations again on receiving a United Thank Offering Grant! The UTO Board requires that each grant site submit a press release to your Diocesan E-News regarding your UTO Grant. Each year we receive about two times as many grant requests as we have money to fund, and we would love to increase participation in UTO to fund additional eligible and worthy ministries. We find that when grant sites tell the story of how receiving a UTO Grant has helped their ministry, more congregations within their diocese are encouraged to participate in UTO. When your article appears in your Diocesan E-News, please forward me a copy to add to your file. We also hope that you will ensure that there are UTO Blue Boxes available at your Diocesan Convention as one way of giving thanks for the UTO Grant you received or that an announcement about your grant accompanied with the option to give online (www.unitedthankoffering.com/give) is shared. We also offer a kit of materials for a UTO display at Diocesan Convention, you can order one here: https://dfms.formstack.com/forms/uto_orders as a way to share the free resources UTO has available for congregations and families. If you have any questions, please let me know.