

## Grace Ministry Fund & Outreach FAQ

### **Hello Grace,**

This document is meant to help convey and answer questions around our 2024 Spend Plan specific to Outreach and moving towards a Unified One Fund Spend Plan. This document specifically addresses the Outreach portion.

### **Rooted & Rising, OneFund Spend Plan, and Outreach:**

A key component of Rooted & Rising is moving to a Unified One Fund Spend Plan. With a unified One Fund Spend Plan Grace ensures that programs have the funds required to thrive, enabling the impact planned across our ministries. Also, 15% of every dollar given will go towards Outreach, which has historically been managed through restricted funds. By moving towards a Unified One Fund Spend Plan, moving away from use of restricted funds, Grace will have a streamlined way to manage our finances while providing more transparency on generosity and impact.

### **Grace Outreach Team:**

To help ensure we continue building relationships with each of our outreach partners and understand their vision and needs in the communities served, we need your help to raise up a Grace Outreach Team. This team is comprised of congregation members with a passion and commitment to one or more outreach partners serving our local and global community. This group will have regular contact with our outreach partners to understand their needs and impact from Grace's support. This group, with our Board, and Finance Ministry Team, will help discern how to allocate the 15% across our ministry partners.

### **Why include Outreach in the Unified One Fund Spend Plan?**

- 1) ALL MEANS ALL – For every dollar given 15 cents goes to outreach. All the congregation participates. We are moving towards a generosity model where we are ALL committed towards Grace and our Outreach Partners.
- 2) LASTING ACCOMPANIMENT – We have long-standing relationships and new emerging ones. The outreach portion helps ensure on-going commitment and support of our ministry partners continues.
- 3) SERVANT HEARTS - Through Rooted & Rising we are committed to SERVE our mission partners. We do this through our time, talent and TREASURES.
- 4) UNBOUNDED GENEROSITY – Historically, people give towards the project near and dear to them. In this new model, the whole congregation participates through their unbounded generosity ensuring the WHOLE, both Grace's ministries AND our Outreach Partners, are funded to thrive, creating lasting impact. Also, outreach dollars are given as first fruits.
- 5) ONGOING DISCERNMENT – In partnership and collaboration with our Outreach partners, Grace's Outreach leaders, Board and Finance leadership, we will regularly engage to understand needs, hopes, and dreams, to invest outreach dollars towards current and emerging priorities. This will happen quarterly.

### **Will Outreach giving be consistent with past giving to our outreach partners?**

With moving towards a committed outreach generosity where 15% of all giving to Grace Ministry Fund contributes towards outreach, in most cases the giving to our partners will be MORE!

### **How did we decide on 15% for Outreach?**

An assessment was done to triage all restricted funds to identify those that are related to outreach and then get an average of total giving that went towards outreach over the past three years.

### **Will all Outreach be managed through the Unified One Fund Spend Plan?**

As we reviewed each outreach ministry, we did keep a few areas as Restricted Funds with the guiding principle being that when there is a personal bond between individual donor and the individual recipient of the donated funds we do not want to get in the way of that relationship. Two such areas that we kept as restricted funds were Haiti Student Sponsorships and Camperships.

### **What if someone continues to give directly to a partner through Grace?**

For this to be successful, we need to commit towards the Unified One Fund Grace Ministry Fund. We also know that it may take time to fully transition to give solely towards the Grace Ministry Fund and having outreach committed within the spend plan. If someone gives generously towards an outreach partner rather than Grace Ministry Fund, we have to honor that. If this generosity is towards one of the committed outreach partners, it will count towards the 15%.

### **How will the congregation get updates on generosity towards Outreach?**

As we move into 2024, the amounts distributed to our outreach partners would be reported as a part of the quarterly financial reporting.

Category	Focus Area	% Allocation	2024	Outreach Leader	Notes
Local Outreach	Des Moines Food Bank	5.12%	\$11,384.83	Rand and Barb Barnard	
Global Outreach	El Salvador Mission	5.13%	\$11,407.07	Valerie Constantino	
Local Outreach	Family Emergency	1.71%	\$3,802.36	Pastor Rachel Swenson & Pastor Chad Johnson	
Local Outreach	Local Outreach	10.26%	\$22,814.14	Staff and Other Key Areas of Service	
Local Outreach	grace in ACTION	6.84%	\$15,209.42	Al Vraspir and Amy Baker	
Global Outreach	Guatemala Mission	6.84%	\$15,209.42	Anita Chiarenza and Debbie O'Neal	Guatemala El Refugio Shelter, Healing House, Mission
Global Outreach	Haiti Mission	6.84%	\$15,209.42	Brian Ervin	Haitian Timoun Foundation

Global Outreach	India Mission	6.84%	\$15,209.42	Pastor Chad Johnson	Hope Rising for India
Local Outreach	Lutheran Counseling Network	1.50%	\$3,335.40	Brian Ervin	
Local Outreach	Refugee Resettlement	6.84%	\$15,209.42	Tessa Krippaehne	Afghan Resettlement, LIRS, other refugee resettlement efforts
Global Outreach	SMT Orphanage	2.48%	\$5,514.53	Pastor Salvador Cossio	
Global Outreach	Uganda Mission	2.56%	\$5,692.42	Shelley Hartman	Reaching Out with Hope
Local Outreach	<i>NW Synod Budget</i>	7.00%	\$15,565.20	Pastor Rachel Swenson	
Local/Global Outreach	Disaster Response	5.13%	\$11,407.07	Laura Woods	
Global Outreach	Lutheran World Relief	12.22%	\$27,172.39	Laura Woods	
Global Outreach	World Hunger	12.22%	\$27,172.39	Laura Woods	
Global Outreach	LWR Quilts   Kits Shipping Fund	0.47%	\$1,045.09	Janet Labes	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$222,360.00</b>		