



Liberty HealthShare

Sharing Hearts Fund for the Church

Eligibility Explanation

All Christian churches in Stark and contiguous counties are encouraged to apply for Sharing Hearts grant funding.

Christian churches are defined as having the following characteristics:

- Acknowledge that Jesus Christ is our salvation (John 14:6).
- Demonstrate the Fruits of the Spirit (Gal 5:22-32; Matt 12:33).
- Participate regularly in worship and prayer (John 4:24).
- Seek to do good and serve the needy in their communities (Gal 6:2).

All applicants should align with Liberty HealthShare's "Statement of Shared Christian Beliefs" as follows:

- We believe that Jesus Christ is the only way by whom we are forgiven of sins and are gifted salvation (John 14:6).
- We believe that our personal rights and liberties originate from God and are bestowed on us by God and are not concessions granted to us by governments or men.
- We believe every individual has a fundamental religious right to worship the God of the Bible according to Scripture.
- We believe it is our biblical and ethical obligation to assist our fellow man when they are in need according to our available resources and opportunity (Gal 6:2; Acts 2:44-45).

For a proposal to be eligible for consideration of funding the program or ministry should:

- Express how the church will serve the needy or vulnerable populations in their community. This service can include, but is not limited to, providing clothing, preparing and serving meals, and other ministries focused on service of the underprivileged.
- Be such a program or ministry where the tangible impact of the grant can be reported upon after awarding.
- Be either a pre-existing program or service offered by church or a new program or service of which the impact and service can be defined.

FAQs

About Sharing Hearts for the Church

What is Sharing Hearts for the Church?

Sharing Hearts for the Church is a charitable initiative of Liberty HealthShare designed to support churches as they serve their communities and work to spread the Gospel. Through this program, eligible churches may apply for grant funding to support ministry efforts serving those in need in their communities.

Why is Liberty HealthShare offering these grants?

Liberty HealthShare believes in supporting churches to be a force for good in their communities. Liberty HealthShare seeks to come alongside churches through Sharing Hearts for the Church to empower them as we all work together for the Kingdom of God.

Eligibility

Who is eligible to apply?

All Christian churches are eligible to apply for funding. Eligibility requirements are further outlined in the Eligibility Explanation document and at www.libertyhealthshare.org/sharing-hearts/the-church.

Does anyone in my church need to be a Liberty HealthShare member?

No. Participation in Liberty HealthShare is not required to apply for grant funding.

Funding

How much funding is available?

There is a total of \$100,000 set aside for Sharing Hearts for the Church. Eligible churches may apply for one of 20 available grants in the amount of up to \$5,000.

Are there restrictions on how funds can be used?

Yes. Grant funds must be used for approved purposes as outlined in the Sharing Hearts guidelines. Reporting of funding usage will be required.

What types of church projects or initiatives can receive funding?

All programs or initiatives that seek to serve the needy in a church's surrounding community are eligible for funding. Examples may include community service programs, food or clothing drives, and other projects that positively impact individuals and communities.

Application Process

How do I apply?

The online application—and more information—can be found at www.libertyhealthshare.org/sharing-hearts/the-church or printed out and mailed to Liberty HealthShare at 4455 Hills and Dales Rd. NW Canton, OH 44708 ATTN. Sharing Hearts for the Church.

Selection

What happens after an application is submitted?

Applications will be reviewed by a Review Committee and based on criteria such as: alignment with program objectives, potential community impact, feasibility, and overall strength of the proposal. Select written applications will be invited to the Liberty HealthShare offices to present a proposal to the Review Committee for final decisions.

How many grants will be awarded?

A total of 20 grants up to \$5,000 are available for awarding.

Grant Disbursement

If selected, when will funds be distributed?

Grants will be disbursed in December 2026 with the intention of the funds being used in 2027. Further timeline specifics can be found on the website.

What information is required?

Applicants should be prepared to provide information about their church, the proposed project or initiative, anticipated impact, funding needs, and any other information requested during the application process.

What is the application deadline?

Applications are due October 1 at 5pm.

Who selects the recipients?

Applications will be reviewed by a Review Committee consisting of church leaders, Christian nonprofit leaders, and Liberty HealthShare staff.

When will recipients be notified?

Applicants will be notified after the review and selection process is complete. Specific notification and disbursement timelines can be found on the website. More details on disbursement below.

Are recipients required to submit reports or updates?

Recipients will be required to report on the use and impact of grant funds in a one-page document within 6 months of the funds' usage, or by the end of 2027. Specific requirements will be communicated to selected organizations.

FAQs

Additional Questions

Is there a cost to apply?

No. There is no cost to submit an application.

Can more than one project be submitted?

Only one grant is available to each church. Churches should not submit more than one grant proposal.

Does receiving a grant create any obligation to join Liberty HealthShare?

No. Receiving a grant does not require participation in Liberty HealthShare.

Can grant funds be combined with other funding sources?

In many cases, yes. Applicants should disclose other funding sources as requested during the application process.

Contact Information

For questions regarding Sharing Hearts for The Church grant eligibility, or the application process, please contact:

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Or visit:

www.libertyhealthshare.org/sharing-hearts/the-church

