

Peer Learning Grant Application Form
December 2003

1. Please describe your proposed peer learning group

- a. Name of group (your choice of descriptive word or phrase)

AAPM—Asian-American Pastoral Ministry

- b. Names and position/location of all pastors in the group

1. **Nam Kieu** – Vietnamese Liberty CRC, San Jose, CA
2. **Socheth Na** – Cambodian Fellowship CRC, Holland, MI
3. **Fernando del Rosario** – Filipino Living Faith Fellowship CRC, Union City, CA
4. **Phonh Sinbondit** – Laotian New Life CRC, New Brighton, MN
5. **Abraham Lee** – Chinese Golden Gate CRC, San Francisco, CA
6. **Matthew Le** – Vietnamese Little Saigon CRC, Westminster, CA
7. **Albert Sideco** – Filipino CRC, Jersey City, NJ
8. **John Kim** – Cambodian CRC, Denver, CO
9. **Ji Jun** – Korean Ministries, Bellflower, CA
10. **Elmer Tandayu** – Grace Filipino, Bellflower & Carson, CA

- c. Factor(s) that bring the group together

Many Asian American churches/leaders have common issues they struggle with as recent immigrants, but they have limited resources to address them; hence the need to meet and share their experiences and resources to help each other.

The Asian American Pastoral Ministry group is composed of Asian-American Christian Reformed pastors who share several commonalities including:

- Similar cultural backgrounds
- Similar issues concerning relation to land of birth and its culture
- Similar ministry contexts: first generation with 1.5 and 2.0 generations, i.e., intergenerational and cultural gaps within their own communities
- Similar social issues, for example, acculturation of the first, 1.5 and 2.0 generations
- Similar issues concerning relation to the denomination, i.e., most of them are new to the denomination
- High church growth opportunities and needs
- Leadership development needs and opportunities

2. Describe the group's proposal for peer learning

- a. How your group went about developing this proposal.

We developed this proposal in the context of the April, 2003, Asian Planning Group meeting. APG meetings have been ongoing and are now looking forward to a revised focus. The Sustaining Pastoral Excellence program has provided a framework for more intentional learning.

- b. When and how your group members will establish individual goals for personal development and ministry effectiveness

They will establish these goals at their January, 2004 meeting, based on the group goals developed as in 2.d. of this report. Each individual will submit his own goals to the group for critique and accountability. Each member will commit to work diligently and prayerfully to accomplish the specified goals. In general, the goals will focus on improving pastors' capacity to minister effectively in an Asian-American context.

- c. Meeting schedule and nature of group activities

The group will meet quarterly in January, April, July, and October. The April and October meetings will be face to face for two to three days each and will include a seminar or a conference. Before each meeting, the participating pastors will read an agreed-on book regarding ministry in an Asian-American context. The books to be read will be identified at the January, 2004 meeting.

Because the pastors minister in different cities, the January and July meetings will be regional (East, West, and Midwest) one day meetings. These meetings will focus on assessing progress toward group and individual goals. In addition, these meetings will provide opportunities for the following:

- Fellowship, mutual encouragement, accountability, and prayer support
 - participate in face to face meetings
 - encourage and expect e-mail and telephone communication
- Discussing common ministry concerns and issues, including ways to implement and foster intra-Asian cooperation and collaboration between generations and language groups concerning the following:
 - social issues such as hate crimes
 - interracial marriage and interracial families
 - acculturation issues
 - evangelism and discipleship of people from other religious groups
- Sharing resources with respective language groups
 - share information concerning networking opportunities
 - share workable ideas and program materials
 - further identify and develop such resources
- Encouraging multiplication
 - raising up additional leaders such as bi-vocational leaders
 - encouraging additional peer learning groups

Telephone conferences will be held as needed.

- d. Goals and expected outcomes for the group, the AAPM learning community

The goal of this project is that members will be more effective pastors to our respective congregations and be better equipped to reach out to others with whom we come into contact.

More specifically, the outcome of this project will be the identification of successful models for ministry within the Asian-American context. In particular, the group will identify pastoral leadership styles appropriate for and effective in the Asian-American context.

The models and leadership styles will be described in a short collaborative paper. Each pastor will be expected to implement some aspect of one of these models in his specific ministry environment.

- e. How your group members will hold one another accountable for expected outcomes.

We will include accountability as an integral component of all meetings.
We will provide an open and caring environment in which to review each member's progress.

3. Identify the group coordinators

- a. Name and position/location

Fernando del Rosario, Coordinator, Hayward, CA
Socheth Na, Associate Coordinator, Holland, MI
Nam Kieu, Treasurer, San Jose, CA

- b. Institution name, address, phone, fax, email

Living Faith Fellowship CRC, 17146 Via Del Rey, San Lorenzo, CA 94580
Tel/Fax 510-481-1914, livingcrc@sbcglobal.net

Vietnamese Liberty CRC, 2296 Quimby Road, San Jose, CA 95122
Tel: 408-223-2377 Fax: 408-223-2379, namkieu@tdtd.org

Cambodian Fellowship, 1 Grave Place, Holland, MI 49423-3617
Tel: 616-392-1014 Fax: 616-396-5524, cfrc@wmol.com

- c. Home address, phone, fax, email

Nam Kieu: 2716 Whispering Hills Lane, San Jose, CA 95148-3447, 408-223-2369
Socheth Na: 8303 South Maple Ct., Zeeland, MI 49464, 616-772-4704

Please use additional space or pages as needed.
This form may be accessed in electronic form @ www.crcna.org/pastoralexcellence

When completed, send to SPE Project Coordinator
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Grand Rapids, MI 49560 USA
or pastoralexcellence@crcna.org