



the north central **FOUNDATION**

church revitalization & church multiplication

Statement of Purpose and Grant Guidelines

Big Idea/Goal: The North Central District has established The North Central Foundation (hereafter “the foundation”), a board designated quasi-foundation (defined more fully below) to provide resources for church multiplication and church revitalization among and through the congregations of the EFCA’s North Central District. The initial financial goal is to raise and distribute \$1,000,000 over five years.

Anticipated funding for the North Central Foundation is as follows:

- ✓ Initial Funding of \$150,000 from the North Central District (through the monies received from the Argenta Trail property sale).
- ✓ The NCD board of directors and NCD staff will be given the opportunity (without pressure or expectation) to make Initial leadership gifts.
- ✓ The NCD board will work with district staff to develop a fund-raising plan for the remaining amount. The intention is for the majority of the funds to come other from non-church entities (individuals, foundations, other EFCA entities, etc.). Gifts from churches may be accepted, but the NCD does not want the foundation to become a conduit that redistributes funds between NCD churches.
- ✓ Windfalls related to the sale or disposition of church properties will not be used for annual budgets; rather, amounts received will be put into the foundation for distribution to NCD churches.

Oversight: As a “quasi-foundation,” the foundation will operate with principles and practices similar to a true foundation. However, there is no separate legal entity or formal foundation – it is simply a separate board designated fund within and under the control of the NCD.

The NCD board of directors has primary oversight with support and administration provided by district staff. This is intended to protect the integrity of the foundation and to help our church leaders see that this was a gift “from” the district, not “for” the district. This also allows the NCD board to have greater connection with (and impact on) our churches.

Statement of Purpose and Grant Guidelines Cont.

Approval and Distribution Process: Throughout the year, the NCD board of directors will gather suggestions on where to invest foundation resources from our pastors, church leaders and churches. In addition, the NCD staff may also make suggestions. Churches will not be able to “apply,” but will be able to nominate their sister churches for consideration.

As noted above, grants from the foundation are made to provide resources for church multiplication and church revitalization among and through the congregations of the EFCA’s North Central District. Specifically, what does and does not fit in these categories will be decided on and refined by the NCD board over time.

Suggestions gathered will be reviewed by NCD staff and summarized for discussion by a sub-committee of the board (“Grant Committee”), which will consist of 2-3 board members, the District Superintendent as an ex-officio member, and the Director of Resource Development as a non-voting staff liaison. The Grant Committee will then recommend individual grants for approval by the board at its regularly scheduled quarterly meetings.

Following approval by the NCD board of directors, grants may be distributed by the board, NCD staff, or both. Minimal grant follow-up is anticipated; however, sufficient follow-up will be needed to ensure the foundation’s integrity by verifying that funds have been used for the purposes anticipated and to satisfy regulatory requirements.

Eligible Recipients: Only NCD churches in good standing may receive distributions from the North Central Foundation.

Recommended Annual Distributions: Minimum of 20% of fund, not to exceed \$200,000 in total distributions in a single calendar year. Grants are typically expected to be \$1-20,000, though smaller or larger grants will also be considered.

