



First Baptist Church of Phoenix Foundation
A SUPPORTING ORGANIZATION OF THE ARIZONA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

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NEWSLETTER

October 2017

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From the President

As Bill Beamon explained in the last newsletter, different officers were elected at the 2016 Annual Meeting than had been serving for quite a few years. I especially want to thank Bill for his years of outstanding leadership of our foundation. The new officers are listed just left of this message. We began serving in the fall of 2016 and were re-elected to serve another year at the 2017 annual meeting of the board. All officers are elected each year, and board members are elected to three year terms that are staggered.

Our previous Vice President was Al Longanecker. He also has been the chair of the Granting Committee and continues to provide outstanding leadership as its chair. The board appointed Al to be Vice President of Grants.

Living Streams Church continues to consistently make note payments to us every month. These payments are used to fund about half of the grants we make each year. The other half comes from dividends and appreciation of our investment fund. The last several years we have approved grants of about \$200,000 per year. Pray that we make good decisions about which grant applications to fund and for how much.

We appreciate the support we receive from the Arizona Community Foundation (ACF) since we became a Support Organization to them several years ago. They provide administrative help, handle our finances, provide us a grant application portal on the internet, guide our investment strategy, and provide legal assistance when needed. Our treasurer, Jeff Sauter, is also the chief financial officer of ACF. It has been a real pleasure to work with these friendly professionals.

Continue to pray for us as we continue to fulfill our mission and the legacy of the First Baptist Church of Phoenix.

God bless,

---Gary Hamman

Grant Awards for 2017/2018

The Foundation accepts grant applications between January 1st and March 31st of each year. The Grants Committee then meets during the month of April to do any necessary follow-up and to properly, and prayerfully, evaluate each grant application. The process takes the full month with the resulting recommendations presented to the Foundation Board at the end of the month. The approved grant awards are then turned over to the Arizona Community Foundation for processing and payment as appropriate. Some awards are contingent on specific milestones being met before payments are processed.

This year we received 37 applications, down a bit from last year's record high. Part of the lower number is a result of some of our regular applicants not applying this year. We hope that this means they are financially and spiritually stable and not in need of the funding for this cycle. About half of the applications were from new ministries submitting requests for the first time, many representing local outreach ministries.

We awarded grants totaling close to \$230,000 for the 2017/2018 cycle, assuming that all specified milestones are achieved. This includes awards for new churches in five different states, including Arizona, as well as in Mexico and Bosnia/Herzegovina. In addition, we are providing funding for thirteen Mission and Outreach projects, ranging from Phoenix and other states, to Peru and Africa.

Following is a listing of the grant awards for 2017/2018 (those with an * are new for this cycle):

Church related project funding:

- *City On a Hill Church (Brookline, MA, new church plant)
- Rocky Point Family of God (Rocky Point, Mexico, new church plant)
- *Spring Church (Arcadia area, Phoenix, new church plant)
- *The Well Church (Nashua, NH, new church plant)
- Tuzla Baptist Church (Bosnia and Herzegovina, church expansion)
- Transformation Ministries (Vistancia, Peoria, AZ, new church plant)
- *Parkside Church (Oceanside, CA, church expansion)

Mission and Outreach project funding

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| *AZ Urban Youth Ministries (Phoenix area) | Neighborhood Ministries (S. Phoenix, AZ) |
| *Disciple Nations Alliance (International) | Rocky Point Medical Clinics (Rocky Point, Mexico) |
| *Fellowship of Christian Athletes Camp (Arizona) | Tonto Rim Christian Camp (Payson, AZ) |
| *Intervarsity Christian Fellowship (Chicago, IL) | Win Our Nations (Cameroon, Africa) |
| *Living Streams Ecuador Mission (Ecuador, SA) | Young Life Urban Ministries (Phoenix Metro area) |
| *Mitchell Swaback Charities (Phoenix, AZ) | Young Life Developing Global Leader's Program (Int'l) |
| *Your Mission Matters (Cusco, Peru) | |

The First Baptist Church of Phoenix Foundation, blessed with funding from the former First Baptist Church of Phoenix, continues to spread the missionary outreach of First Baptist and all who made contributions over the years.

God has richly blessed us,

Al Longanecker
VP Grants, FBCPF

Annual Report from Rocky Point Medical Clinic by George and Susie Stavros

My heart starts beating really quickly and I can't sit still, when I think about the last year with the clinics.

It has been the most exciting...and challenging...time imaginable.

We have come so far in the last almost 19 years, but the last year has been incredible.

We have had numerous clinics. Doors have been opened that I never dreamed existed.

People have sprung up out of nowhere and made things happen.

We have, of course, purchased medicine and medical supplies. This includes monies towards the prostheses...we have provided 37 legs so far! Last weekend at the clinic, some folks traveled 16 hours to be seen. Prostheses just don't happen in Mexico. Our mayor's wife's uncle...not poor folks, by any means,...has waited years for a leg and came to us. In our efforts to make people more self-reliant and take ownership in the care of their bodies and the prostheses, we have started to charge people for their legs. Not much, \$100.00, a fraction of what it costs our prosthetic guys to make them. But, in not charging, patients have no 'skin in the game'. One woman was fitted; the doctor made her a new leg and came back the next month to put it on her, but she never showed for her appointment. So, now, patients must pay \$20.00 to get fitted and the other \$80.00 when they get their leg; the \$80.00 can be paid in installments.

We have also started to do this with our patients who need dentures. We have met some providers through the Christian Medical Dental Association, and one dentist comes down and makes dentures for folks. It costs him \$350.00 to make a set; so having the patient pay for what would cost \$1000s in the US or Mexico is not a bad thing. We have finally finished our dental building...the AC goes in shortly; as we have several dental clinics scheduled this summer, it is too hot and humid to work without it. Dental care is a huge health issue, and we have started to get lots of excitement from folks who want to volunteer. This has been a huge gap in our service area, and while it is expensive to run a dental clinic, healthy teeth and gums make overall health better and easier to manage.

We have successfully provided many much-needed surgeries. In a new twist, we are able to do many of the surgeries in Penasco now. Creighton University, in Omaha, has started a 3rd & 4th-year program for their medical students at St. Joseph's in Phoenix. George and our oldest son and our nephew all went to undergrad and medical school at Creighton. So, we reached out to them. Now, Creighton is sending us both doctors and medical students. Several of the doctors like doing surgeries, as does an ob-gyn from Mesa and another orthopedic surgeon from Tucson. We have done 2 total hip replacements, one hernia, one hysterectomy and a hand surgery. We have 3 more hip replacement surgeries scheduled for July. The first two hips we did were on young women, one 32 years old and one 34 years old. How incredible it is to see them start to be able to work and take care of their families. One of them is now very active in Family of God.

At the Community Center, we now have an active Bible study on Friday nights and a mid-week one for women. Our Young Life program is growing; our scholarship program is working well. Believing that education is the key to changing their lives, we are thrilled with the changing behaviors and attitudes of our scholarship kids. They are required to be in Young Life and volunteer at the Community Center. We are trying to 'train them in the way they should go', where families haven't been able to do that. **We are trying to show all of our people that there is a better way, and that with Jesus in their lives, they can change, and their families and their circumstances can change. Hope is a beautiful thing to be able to give.** You all have been instrumental in making all of this happen. We also used some of our grant money for the men's retreat. That event is still being talked about by the men, and I hope we can find a way to do that again. Building men of character and integrity is crucial, and the retreat went a long way towards doing that.

All in all, the past year has been an incredible outpouring of God's blessings on our endeavors.

We are excited to see what the next year brings. Thank you for helping make all this possible.