**Funding Sources for Ministry Projects**

When planning ministry projects, researching external grants is an important part of the planning. This document provides some ways to explore external grants. Initial research from these is recommended to see if your ministry project qualifies. One suggestion is to make your ministry project stand out from all the rest, which will hopefully have your grant application approved.

**Joni & Friends, Inc.**  
Here is a website for Joni & Friends (their grant webpage). They offer a small grant for disability ministries.   
<http://www.joniandfriends.org/help-and-resources/organizations/christian-fund-disabled/>

**Grants and Loans through Your Annual Conference**   
Most annual conferences list a few external grant opportunities on their website. It includes building grant/building loans, new faith ministries grants, and strategic growth initiative grants. Check with your annual conference for these opportunities.

**The Committee on Deaf and Hard of Hearing Ministries**The Global Ministries Committee on Deaf and Hard of Hearing Ministries offers limited grants and scholarships. The committee accepts grants twice a year.  
<https://www.umdeaf.org/fund.html>

**The Disability Ministries Committee**The Global Ministries Disability Ministries of The United Methodist Church offers limited grants for churches to be accessible to individuals with disabilities. Here is a link for their grant application. <https://www.umdisabilityministries.org/links/fund.html>

**Pathways**   
Pathways.org offers grants to faith communities for the purposes of inclusion and accessibility. They offer Open Hearts Awards and Junior Open Hearts Awards. Here is their website. <https://pathways.org/tools-resources/inclusion-worship/awards/>

**District Superintendents**   
Most district superintendents have a small discretionary budget that might be tapped into. If it is unavailable, the D.S. may know of possible church-related foundations that might be helpful to your church, as the D.S. is often consulted when it comes to capital improvement projects.

**United Methodist Women**  
Some UMW units offer in-kind gifts and/or assistance for fundraising. If your church does not have a UMW unit, explore the UMW units in your district, even in your annual conference. Most annual conferences have a UMW president and reaching out to her might be helpful too. The more affluent churches may have more generosity.  
  
**Foundation Grants**   
Most states offer grants that are worth researching. A simple Google search for your state foundation grants should give you a link to a website that will provide you what you’re looking for.

**Calvin Institute of Christian Worship Vital Worship Grants**   
“to foster, strengthen, and sustain well-grounded worship” can include inclusion improvements <https://worship.calvin.edu/grants/>

**Fundsnet Services.Com**Fundsnet Services.com offers a list of a grant opportunities by categories (e.g. disability grants, community foundations, education grants, etc.). While some research is needed, it may prove to be helpful in being awarded a grant for your ministry project, especially if it is helping your community or the deaf community in some way.  
<http://www.fundsnetservices.com/>

**Fundraising Ideas**   
Another suggestion is to do a few fundraisers to help raise the funds to pay for your ministry project. Here is a website with several fundraising ideas.   
<http://www.abcfundraising.com/fundraising-ideas/ideas-for-church-fundraisers/>