

Grant Name	Lutherans In Medical Missions Bringing Wellness and Witness in Belize and Haiti
Mission/Project Summary	Lutherans In Medical Missions (LIMM) is a long standing Recognized Service Organization of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, founded in 1994, and has been providing Community Health Education Classes to Mission sites throughout the world in order to equip and train both long-term and short-term missionaries with the tools they need to provide Christian health education and evangelism to the people that they serve. Lutherans in Medical Missions provides this assistance both by directly visiting and working with the missionaries in the field, providing train the trainer education and through financial grant support of the medical project identified. Grants are between \$3,000 and \$10,000 are provided to each mission project annually. Lutherans in Medical Missions has been providing this type of assistance since our founding, and each recipient of a grant must be an organization working directly in ministry. Our Board consists of Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod Ministers, nurses, doctors and laymen, most who have had direct experience working in the mission field.
Project Description and Details	Lutherans in Medical Missions will provide a train the trainer class using the Community Health Education and Evangelism (CHE) guidelines in order to equip workers in ministry with the tools they need for teaching health care topics to their community members. These classes are geared specifically for workers in Third World Countries working with underserved populations. The training class will cost \$5,000 and be available to nurses and teachers wanting to work in ministry. The class is designed for up to 10 participants. Additional funds will be used for the supplementation of the ministries needs related to specific equipment for health care outreach, including physical therapy equipment, or bandages for wound care, or vitamin supplements to be distributed to expectant mothers.
The recipient must be affiliated with one of the following. Please select the one that applies to this request:	Registered Service Organization (RSO)
Amount requested:	\$10,000
Project Goals and Objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Volunteers will be educated on Community Health, Education and Evangelism techniques, understanding that using documented formats will provide deeper understanding of the health classes taught. 2. Volunteers will use the knowledge attained in ministry outreach to serve needs of those living in extreme poverty. 3. Physical Therapy visits will be provided monthly to families needing the education on how to care for children with severe disabilities. 4. Families will gain independence in their ability to provide good care to their disabled children. 5. Missionaries will see a deeper connection to the church with the outreach to those in need.
Budget Outline and Financial Plan	<p>Community Health and Education Class to be held in the fall of 2027 - \$5,000.</p> <p>Annual Mission grant for support to Mercy House Western Belize for physical therapy equipment and salary assistance for contracting the physical therapist - \$3,000.</p> <p>Annual Mission grant to Habitat for Children's Ministries for purchase of pre-</p>

natal vitamins, ultrasound equipment, and medical supplies for the clinic - \$5,000

Additional Comments or Information



Saturday morning, missionary families joined the preschool teachers for a 2-for-1 workshop on first aid and CPR.



Lutherans in Medical Missions

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Since its beginning in 1994, LIMM has sought ways to share Christ's healing with those living in underserved communities. Founded by former medical missionaries, health care professionals and others with a heart for missions, we believe medical ministries are a critical witness in bringing the reality of God's love to all people, recognizing each individual as body and spirit in need of the restorative power of Jesus Christ. LIMM seeks opportunities to help medical missionaries serving long term on mission fields, those taking part in short term mission trips and members of our Lutheran brothers and sisters serving their neighbors at home and across the world.

Lutherans in Medical Missions has worked to support Lutheran health care mission ministries both here in the US and abroad since 1994 by assisting them with emergency money during times of crisis, and in times of growth. We strive to be there to support our LCMS missionaries and their projects when additional funds are needed. Receiving this grant would allow support to missionaries working in Western Belize. Executive Director Sharon Thomas has actively worked in partnership with the Belize Mission Society for the past 12 years. She attended the first FORO planning meeting with the LCMS and Belize Mission Society in Belize to open discussion for planting the first Lutheran Church in Belize. Today there are 3 churches established, 4 full time missionaries, and a Lutheran preschool.

Missionary Benjamin Flores works primarily in Western Belize with a large Spanish speaking population. He had helped identify several children with significant birth defects related to Cerebral Palsy. He has established the Belize Mercy House ministry, that has been successful with bring trained physical therapists to the village area and providing monthly therapy sessions to the patients and families. This grant will help provide funds to keep this program going, with the goal of hiring a dedicated physical therapist to serve the region more frequently. The goal will be fewer complications from disabilities, including contractures, bedsores, and feeding disorders by providing parents and caregivers with education and supportive tools for care of their loved one. Mercy House presently has a contract for Therapy Services with The Inspiration Center in Belize City. The \$2,500 covers 6 months of services – or \$425 for each visit. By providing additional funding they will be able to extend the contract and the care for families in need.

LIMM will also continue to support Western Belize Mercy House with Community Health Education and Evangelism (CHE) classes and materials and plans to provide a

“Train the Trainer” program to enable missionaries to carry on the teaching independent of L IMM. CHE concepts and lessons have been successful on LCMS mission fields since 2003, and the number of projects, training and programs is increasing, as is the number of called medical missionaries within the LCMS. L IMM has provided opportunities for several of these missionaries to attend CHE training, so that they can take what they have learned to underserved areas where they have been called.

Testimonials:

Cathy Dulgar, Executive Director Belize Mission Society: “The cost of groceries in this rural area has nearly doubled since last year. As we have seen in the supply chain throughout the world, it has had a significant impact here as well. Virtually all foods are imported to this country, leaving them at the mercy of the grocery chains. Like Jesus, we are caring for those that are forgotten and not seen. We are feeding the hungry and building up local villagers to care for those in the feeding program.” The total food costs per year exceed \$40,000. The training to volunteers who can now teach Community Health Education/ health Ed classes to the school children, teaching with a Lutheran, Christian perspective has been invaluable. Thank you L IMM for your continued support in Belize. Your grants over the past 5 years have been a valuable contribution to our organization.”

Pat Murak, DVM and Meg Bolen RN: “The grant funds provided to us from L IMM allowed 35 participants to complete training in herbal medicine for the management of chronic diseases. We were able to provide families with asthmatic children home nebulizer equipment and medication to treat them during a crisis.”

Andrea Ferguson, RN, LWML member Louisiana/Mississippi District, VP of Christian Outreach: “L IMM is highly effectual in using funds wisely to bring vital services to people in need who do not have financial resources. L IMM provided me a grant to go to Burundi, working with LCMS Missionary Stephanie Schulte and teach the CHE process to local men and women in the village, Women had been using wrong information and now have proper education! The work that L IMM does in Madagascar to help the hospital and community is critical to them. The Girls for Ghana outreach and teaching help countless young women in that country. Their outreach with St. Louis, MO based ministry Christian Friends of New Americans in teaching health education to the immigrant children was a great success. Overall, L IMM is a well-rounded, LCMS Lutheran based resource serving both here in the United States and overseas.”

Dorothy (Dottie) Hinkle, Executive Director Lutheran Social Services of North Florida, received a grant during the COVID pandemic: “We were able to purchase 8 infant car seats with the L IMM grant we received and are very grateful for L IMM's generosity. Because of Stay-at-Home directives in April, our office had been closed to the public and I had been

working mostly from home, trying to keep up with day-to-day business operations and fund development. Our major fundraiser had to be cancelled because of the pandemic so the L IMM grant was more important than ever to the survival of the Kid Safe Program. Thank you L IMM!”

Dr. and Mrs. Kent Killian from St. Louis, MO, founded Christ Community International in 2013, providing medical care to the Kawete, Uganda community. This is done in relationship with Christ Community Lutheran School which houses a medical clinic at the school. who have been serving the Kawete Community since 2010. Dr. Killian writes: “We could not provide care for the school children and many members of the community without L IMM’s generous support. With your prayerful support, God’s will is being done in Kawete, Uganda!”

Financial Statement: As of June 30, 2025, our current checking and savings accounts have \$72,018.66.

Budget: L IMM 2024/2026 Budget

Projected Expenses:

Salaries	\$20,000.00
Payroll Taxes	\$3,500.00
Insurance	\$800.00
Postage/newsletters	\$1,000.00
Office expenses	\$350.00
Staff Travel expenses	\$750.00
Web Site Fees	\$500.00
BOD travel/ Meetings	\$1,200.00
Development/Fund raising	\$1,000.00

Total Projected Expenses **\$29,100.00**

Donations Projected: **\$82,000**

Minimum Grant funding projected annually: **\$50,000**