



## Cross-Cultural Ministry Grant Application - Example:

Many Lutheran schools enrol students from various ethnic backgrounds. A congregation linked to a school like this might plan a special Event to welcome the families of these students and invite them to be part of other activities the congregation offers.

The following is an example of an application for funding towards a welcome event.

### 1. Exec Summary:

*Our St Phillips Congregation shares a location with Good News College, and we would like to build a stronger relationship with the school community in the hope that more of the families will join in church related activities.*

*We have been discussing this with the school principal who tells us that more than 25% of the students come from families who speak another language at home. The school orientate the kids but don't have the resources to offer much socially for the families.*

*As we pray about who to reach out to – we believe these relatively recent arrivals are looking for relationship and might respond to an offer of friendship*

*A few weeks into the school year on a Friday 18<sup>th</sup> Feb we plan to host a BBQ to welcome the families (of the new student intake) at an outdoor facility at the college. About 20 of our St Phillips members are planning to come as well as some college staff who will help with introductions. Some of the St Phillips members attending the event also have children at the school (who will join in on the night)*

*We plan to keep things low key and mingle while sharing food on picnic blankets and having a few games.*

*Someone will formally welcome the families (over a PA) and share briefly about our church and the midweek activities we have for mums and bubs.*

*Our grant request is mainly for the cost of catering ingredients (we will seek some advice about Halal requirements etc)*

### 2. Missional Target:

*St Phillips is situated in Western Melbourne with a rapidly growing multicultural population. There are many Indians, Filipino's, Chinese and Middle easterners moving into the area and recent census data indicate that over 35% of our neighbourhood are Hindu, Muslim, or Sikh*

*Our St Phillips members are talking about ways to reach our neighbourhood and have formed a 'mission committee' to explore ways to reach out.*

*As we liaise with the college staff, they report that over the past few years increasing numbers of these new arrivals are enrolling at Good News College and even though most are not Christian they are favourable towards our values.*

*Some of us are trying to learn a few phrases in various languages and we think that the 'Mainly music' activity we hold on Wednesday morning could be a good place to invite some of the new arrival mums. Maybe the BBQ event will give opportunity to invite some.*

### 3. Organisational Issues:

The St Phillips mission committee will be coordinating things and we have met a few times with the College principal to work through details.

In the lead up to the event we will develop a 'Safety Plan' with appropriate oversight and first aid in place. (The college also ask us to have this in place, to meet their insurance requirements.)

As part of the invitation process, we will ask that a parent accompany any students who come.

We understand the need to be sensitive in the way that we promote the activity and not to be excluding of newly enrolled families who don't specifically fit our target group. We will offer an open invitation but make extra effort to attract people who are from the new arrival groups (or others not currently attending church). Use of various languages in our promotional material is being considered.

### 4. Objectives:

We will feel that the event succeeds if we can get to know more of the students and their families in a low-key environment. The college staff tell us how responsive these families are to kindness, so we are expecting a good rapport to develop and hope to get to know each other's names.

Our long-term objective is to draw some of these new friends into fellowship.

We are praying that this event is a steppingstone and perhaps we can offer a sense of community for people who are still trying to find their feet in a new country.

An idea that one team member has is that we plan a follow up activity and invite those who are responsive to come for another meal. Only this time we could hold it in our community kitchen and invite some of the 'guests' to teach us how they make their traditional food. While we eat together, there would be opportunity to hear more about their lives.

### 5. Budget:

Our primary cost to host the welcome event and follow up meal will be purchasing food items. (which we will cook) and drinks. We also plan to run a few games / competitions with prizes. We are requesting \$1000 towards our total budget of \$1200

Catering ingredients for welcome event	\$600
Prizes	\$200
Promotional materials	\$50
Food and drink items for follow-up meal	\$350
 Total	 <u>\$1200</u>