



Total Grant Request: \$10,850

Church Association: The River Sparta

Person Submitting Application: Cassidy Phillips

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Anticipated Dates of Project: July 1st - August 10th

Signature: *Cassidy Phillips*

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Abstract

The River Sparta is a Baptist church in Sparta, Tennessee with a specific calling to foster medical missions, specifically through an annual medical missions trip. This annual project takes place over the summer and reaches out to various impoverished communities throughout east Tennessee. This ministry focuses on indiscriminately meeting the physical needs of a community and sharing the gospel of Christ our healer. The River Sparta strategically meets present needs of a community, and also considers how best to fulfill long term visions and goals throughout the year. In 2017 our goal is to reach out to four cities among east Tennessee, and help as many ill and uneducated people as possible, while sharing the message of Jesus as our true healer. If this trip receives the funding it requires, over 2,000 people in East Tennessee will receive medical treatment and education, and over 5,000 will hear the Gospel, many for the first time. Communities will receive genuine and personal attention from committed volunteers from River Sparta and around the country. With funding, thousands will hear the good news of Jesus and their lives will be impacted forever.

Needs Statement

The River Sparta Community church is in need of funds to continue our medical missions summer program. River Sparta is a church based in Sparta, Tennessee reaches out to impoverished communities located within the East Grand Region of Tennessee, emphasizing the healing ministry of Jesus. Due to a significantly lower income than surrounding states, East Tennessee contains many communities in desperate need of physical health care. River Sparta specifically reaches out to communities where drug use is high and the population is very ill. Previous medical mission trips consistently reveal not only an exorbitant need for health care, but for a message of spiritual hope. The medical missions program brings a message of hope by helping to meet physical health needs and also sharing the joy and freedom that Jesus brings to one's life. The River Sparta has a faithful body of members that generously give their time and money to the summer medical missions program, but in order to accomplish outreach on such a broad spectrum this summer, the program is in need of additional funds. Specifically the program is in need of funds for the purchase of medicine and medical supplies and equipment. The River Sparta believes that God is calling our program to reach out to more areas and communities this summer than ever before, and significant funds are required to fulfill this calling.

Background

The River Sparta was founded in August of 2005. The church was founded by John and April Phillips, a couple who had a deep passion for medical missions. In 2006, when the The River Sparta was still a church plant of 50 people, they went on their first medical missions trip to east Tennessee with funding from a neighboring church and donations from the church body. Though this trip had low funding and a small team, it was highly productive and truly defined The River Sparta's calling as a medical missions oriented church. After that first medical missions trip, River Sparta has gone to east Tennessee every year and plans for the trip year round. The church's long term visions and goals are always to grow the medical missions ministry in east Tennessee and improve on past years.

Objectives

In 2017, The River Sparta's medical missions outreach team will offer:

- Assistance to those suffering from long term conditions
- Medical checkups and ultrasounds to pregnant women
- Nutritional education
- Dental checkups and dental hygiene education
- Skin condition treatment
- General checkups
- Sports physicals for children

General objectives for this yearly trip include:

- Effectively treating a variety of medical ailments within impoverished communities
- Showing Christ's love and offering medical help/advise to a diverse multitude of people
- Offering medical advice and counsel to those who are open to it
- Joining with local churches to assist in already active medical missions
- Offer medical training sessions to local churches
- Intentionally build long-term relationships with communities

Budget

Expense Type	Calculation of Budget	Amount
Medications	1,000 doses at \$5.00 each	\$5,000
Stethoscopes	50 at \$10.00 each	\$500
First Aid Kits	200 at \$5.00 each	\$1,000
Skin treatments	250 at \$3.00 each	\$750
Dental kits	300 at \$10.00 each	\$3,000
Ultrasound machines	2 machines at \$400.00 each	\$800.00
Bibles	500 at \$2.00 each	\$1,000
Check up kits	1,000 at \$5.00 each	\$5,000
Blood lab kits	500 at \$3.00 each	\$1,500
Immunizations	700 at \$4.00 each	\$2,800
TOTAL		\$21,350

Sources of Income	Calculation of Budget	Amount
Organizational Budget	North American Missions Board	\$3,000
Direct Contributions	15 Donors	\$5,000
Volunteer fees	\$5 from each volunteer	\$2,500
Yearly Church donation	From 2017 offering	\$7,200
Total		\$10,500.00

Current Difference in Expenses and Income	\$10,850
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Timeline/Location

Dates of projects:

- Preparations begin April 1st
- Medical training camp (required for all trip attendees) June 15th-18th
- Beginning missions trip date: July 1st
- End of missions trip date: August 10th

Location of projects:

Preparations will take place at The River Sparta church building.

Missions trip will take place in the following locations:

- Bristol, TN: July 1st-15th
- Kingsport, TN: July 16th-25th
- Maryville, TN: July 25th-August 2nd
- Farragut, TN: August 2nd-10th

Volunteer Training

Many churches and people from around the country assist The River Sparta in preparation for the annual missions trip. However, the actual trip attendees are carefully screened and selected to ensure they meet standards, understand expectations, and have sufficient training.

Applicants are required to:

- Fill out extensive application, including an essay portion
- Undergo a background check
- Be a member of an active church