

Request for Jubilee Support

Arlington Street Church, January 2008

Background

The Jubilee Theme for March 2007 through June 2008 is *(Re)Building Connections*.

In March 2007, both the Arlington Street Church Corporation and its Prudential Committee unanimously approved this specific theme and the more general mission statement of the Jubilee Committee:

Jubilee's commitment to advancing human rights and social, economic, and environmental justice is built upon ASC's mission of love and service for justice and peace. Through Jubilee we aspire to share these values beyond ASC's walls – developing new partnerships and strengthening relationships with spiritually enriching and justice-seeking work in our local community and throughout the world. We will share our time, energy, and financial support with short- and long-term actions. Through this giving and receiving we will deepen mutual respect and advance our most cherished values.

Drawn from the Hebrew Bible (Leviticus 25:10), Jubilee represents the radical reordering of relationships. Every fiftieth year, slaves were to be freed and property returned to its rightful owner. Recently the term has been used by various movements, religious and secular, to stand for economic and social justice efforts. Similarly, at Arlington Street Church we understand Jubilee to signify our ongoing work to restore right relations in the world.

Guiding Principles for (Re)Building Connections

Jubilee's *(Re)Building Connections* efforts are guided by the following specific principles:

- a priority on rebuilding/deepening relations in current or recent ASC partnerships as well as among Arlington Street Church members and friends,
- a focus on, or within, the greater Boston area,
- a commitment to sustained attention and action over time, and
- an understanding of Jubilee as a means of spiritual growth as well as social change.

Requests for Support

The Jubilee Committee invites groups of Arlington Street Church members (Committees, Task Forces, ad hoc groups) to submit requests for support (financial and other) that promote the theme of *(Re)Building Connections* and its guiding principles. Requests that identify creative partnerships within our ASC Community with proposed funding up to \$2500 will be considered. Applications from previously funded grantees will be considered.

Proposals (no longer than three pages typed, single spaced) should include:

- a description of the group requesting support (including a contact person with contact information),
- a description of the proposed Jubilee activities,
- a comprehensive explanation of how this proposed activity involves the ASC community in promoting Jubilee's mission, theme, and guiding principles, and
- a budget detailing how awarded funds will be spent.

The Request for Support deadline is January 7, 2008, 6:00 p.m. (firm). Proposals should be submitted electronically to the Jubilee Committee at jubilee@ascboston.org. Selections will be made and applicants notified by January 18.

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Grantees agree:

- to spend the funds only on proposed activities,
- to recognize Jubilee support in promotional materials (for example, on print or electronic flyers), and at the activity,
- to hold a Sunday “Congregational Conversation” to share this work with the ASC community,
- to submit a written final report to the Jubilee Committee describing the actual event and its effectiveness in promoting the Jubilee mission and specifically its 2007-2008 theme of *(Re)Building Connections*. This report should be submitted within one month of the activity period to jubilee@ascboston.org.
- to allow Jubilee to describe its grantees’ efforts on its website and in other Jubilee materials.

Jubilee members will be available to answer questions about the proposal process after the Sunday services on December 9 and January 6, Noon – 1:00 pm, at the Welcome Table in the Parish Hall.

Additionally, questions about Jubilee and this proposal process may be addressed to jubilee@ascboston.org or to Jubilee Committee members: Abigail Donner, Mary Doyle, Charlene Galarneau, Mary Ann Hardenbergh, and Kate Toomey.