



IDW Mission Grant Evaluation Report Form

Grant recipients are to complete and submit the report form within one month of the completion of the effort. If this is a continuing ministry, please submit a report by January 31st of the following year, in which the grant is received. Include pictures/videos that help share the story with other congregations to encourage them in their own ministry. Final grant funds will be sent upon receipt of this evaluation.

Contact Person, Congregation, and email address:

Pastor Mark Eichler, St. Paul/Webster City, reveichler@centurylink.net

1. Please provide a brief overview of the effort:

Purchase of a car to allow transporting Lao people to worship at church on Sundays and transporting Lao people for health and legal appointments outside of Webster City during the week.

2. What goals were established for this effort and what did you hope to accomplish?

This model of connecting with Lao people has been utilized for 15 years now. The Lao deacon has had use of the church minivan over that time. The church minivan needed to be replaced due to age and disrepair. The mission model continues to make connections with the Lao immigrant, showing care and support and real, physical assistance, allowing the Lao Deacon to draw them into Bible Class and worship.

3. Did you achieve your goals? If not, what do you think were some of the contributing factors?

Using the mission grant and other funds, a good, used vehicle was purchased. The used car dealership was generous with a trade-in allowance on the minivan and in reducing the purchase price on the used car. Funds will continue to be available using the budget of St. Paul Lutheran Church/Webster City, for upkeep and daily usage costs of the car.

4. Is there anything you would do differently if you were to undertake this effort again?

Encourage more support from the current Lao members so that they would take more ownership of the ministry.

5. What lessons were learned through this effort?

Many current members at St. Paul Lutheran Church/Webster City are very generous and continue to support this mission to the Lao people. Events that connect the Lao members to the rest of the congregation continue to be needed.

6. Will this outreach effort continue and be sustaining? Did a new outreach opportunity present itself?

It seems that even though the population of Lao people in Webster City doesn't change, individuals come and go. Continuing the mission is needed. As the District support was reduced and eliminated over the last few years, the congregation has absorbed the expenses.

7. What suggestions would you give to a congregation considering a similar effort?

Either set up the mission as a separate entity or from the very beginning, move the ethnic group into the mainline community. When it is set up one way and then you try to move it to the other, it's very difficult to make that paradigm shift.